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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 246 | MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2011 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

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POLL RESULTS

Do you support putting Article 12 to a referendum next year?

Yes	72
No	45
Not sure	4
No opinion	4

Sunday, October 16, 2011

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KILILI URGES NAPOLITANO:

'Parole for those covered by HR 1466'

» Doromal says future bleak for improved status

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) asked U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano on Wednesday in Washington, D.C. to grant parole to individuals covered by his H.R. 1466 and who would otherwise have to leave the CNMI after Nov. 27.

At the same time, former Rota teacher and now Florida-based human rights activist Wendy Doromal said during the weekend that there's a slim chance that HR 1466 will pass before year ends and "a slim possibility that a true champion of the foreign workers will introduce legislation that would grant permanent residency" to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

After meeting with Napolitano, Sablan also met with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services director Alejandro Mayorkas on Thursday.

"I reiterated my request on behalf of all U.S. citizens whose family members may have to leave the Marianas in November unless granted parole by USCIS. Parole would be an interim status until my bill, H.R.1466, can win passage in the House and Senate and be enacted into law by the President," Sablan said in a statement over the weekend.

Napolitano and Mayorkas were at the Capitol to discuss immigration with the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens wait for their turn to ask questions during a parole in place workshop that Micronesian Legal Services Corp. hosted yesterday afternoon at the American Memorial Park auditorium. MLSC hosted two separate sessions yesterday because of the large volume of individuals who showed up.

Hundreds of US citizen kin scramble to apply for parole in place

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Norma Quichocho, from the Philippines, and her husband Martin, a U.S. citizen, have been married on Saipan for 17 years but have never worked on applying for a "green card" or permanent residency status for her until the federal government imposed a Nov. 27, 2011, deadline for non-U.S. citizens to obtain a transitional or other types of immigration status.

Without a status or at least a parole in place by Nov. 27, nonresidents could

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RELATED NEWS

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Malae

Malae backs out from A. Samoa gubernatorial race

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Abe Utu Malae confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* Friday night that he has officially backed out from the gubernatorial race in his hometown, American Samoa, to finish many important jobs here in the Commonwealth.

He said he will continue to serve as the executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. until he fulfills all necessary work that will enable CUC to comply with all mandates of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Malae got back Thursday night from a vacation in American Samoa where he met with his family and supporters.

He said that many of his supporters were disappointed with this turn of event but they understood and respected his decision.

"Yes, I backed out [from the race] because I have to come back here and continue my work. There are too many things that have to be done at CUC and I just feel that it won't be right for me to leave at this

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IMMIGRATION FORUM: U.S. Department of Labor accepts the Saipan Chamber of Commerce-sponsored prevailing wage survey! By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN.

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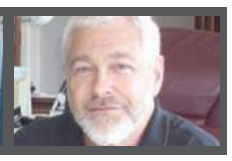

Local

‘More and more foreign workers now know what to do’

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Filipino workers on Saipan attend an information caravan organized by the United Filipino Organization and hosted by the Philippine Consulate General yesterday at the Filcom Pavilion in Susupe.

The fairly good turnout of Filipino workers at the start of the information caravan series held yesterday at the Filcom Pavilion in Susupe signifies that more people are now aware of what to do as the Nov. 27 deadline for guest workers in the CNMI draws near.

“The turnout is just okay since we have already talked to many community leaders who have shared the information with other Filipinos on island. It proves that there are more people who know about the final rule and have fewer questions,” Consul General Medardo Macaraig said in an interview after the event.

Some 150 Filipino workers on Saipan attended the information caravan, organized by the United Filipino Organization and hosted by the Philippine Consulate General, which dealt mostly with issues on CW and parole in place applications, OWWA membership, and repatriation processing.

Macaraig said it would take an average of three to four weeks for the Consulate to process a written request for repatriation services as the funding is taken out of the general budget for overseas Filipino workers.

“Let us always remember that the Philippines is not a first-world country and that we have to get the approval for the repatriation from our Manila office,” he added.

He explained that the process involves purchasing of the airfare at least two weeks in advance to avail of a cheaper rate as well as giving the Filipino worker enough time to take care of his affairs before going back to the Philippines—“that’s why it takes time.”

As of yesterday, Macaraig said they have already sent home four Filipino workers, with another nine awaiting their schedule of departure.

Macaraig said that based on the governor’s statement that there are about 3,000 illegal foreign workers, the assumption is that majority of them are Filipinos. “Fortunately, the number of Filipinos that we have assisted doesn’t reflect those numbers.”

The Consul General encouraged those who do not have employers that will petition them for a CW status and want to go back to the Philippines not to wait “at the last minute” or for the Nov. 27 deadline before they seek the Consulate’s assistance.

Labor representative Carmelina Velasquez echoed this, adding that requests made ahead of time will be for the benefit not just of the Filipino workers but also by the Consulate staff.

Macaraig also urged those who can afford to pay for their own airfares to do so “so that the resources will be left for those who are truly in need.”

Should the number of those who seek the Consulate’s assistance rise in number until after the Nov. 27 deadline, Macaraig said that they will be obliged to prioritize who to repatriate first, starting with those who are both elderly and sick, followed by the sick, the elderly, and the general public.

The Consulate also advised Filipinos in the CNMI to renew their passports at least six months before expiration, adding that the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila is already “well aware” of the situation in the CNMI and has given priority to passport applications and renewal coming from the islands.

Macaraig also advised that while they welcome a proposal to extend the Nov. 27 deadline for all guest workers as well as Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan’s bill that seeks to grant permanent residency status to four groups of people, he urged Filipinos “not to rely” on these measures.

“We sincerely thank the CNMI government and Delegate Kilili but we have to prepare based on what we have now. We cannot rely on those two unless they get approved by the proper authorities, in which case is the federal government and the USCIS,” he emphasized.

Romy Quipid, who works as a cable splicer, said he only heard about the info caravan through other people. “Someone mentioned it to me and I wanted to attend to listen to what will be discussed even though I already have an employer who will petition me for a CW status,” he said.

Quipid, 52, said the info caravan is beneficial particularly those who have long been staying on island and are not currently employed. “I think it would be better especially those who have aged here on Saipan and don’t have work to just go back to the Philippines since it’s already difficult to get a job these days,” he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Elizabeth Sion, who has been on Saipan since 1997, said that while she, too, already has an employer, she wanted to attend the caravan to know what to do for her eldest child and her sister.

Sion, an accountant, said her sister recently lost work because the company she used to work for already closed down while her child is here on a student visa.

“From my understanding of what they said, it all boils down to one thing: if you don’t have a job, it would be impossible to stay in the CNMI. Those who are unemployed really need to make a decision and soon,” said the mother of four.

UFO president Bong Malasarte said the caravan was able to address some issues that Filipinos in the CNMI have. “The info caravan helped minimize whatever qualms or uncertainties they have about the situation.”

Both Malasarte and Macaraig said those who were not able to attend yesterday’s event or have more questions can look forward to another info caravan, the schedule and venue for which will be announced soon.

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Middle Road

Fitial, US governors off to China for second economic forum

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial leaves today for Beijing, China to join five other U.S. state and territorial governors for a second U.S.-China governors' forum on economic development and job creation.

Fitial, in an interview Friday, said this forum is a follow-up to the one held in Utah in July during the U.S. National Governors Association meeting.

"The purpose of this forum is to bring the two countries together at the governor's level," he said, adding that he hopes China will invest in the CNMI in areas of tourism and farming.

He said the Chinese governors he met in July promised to visit the CNMI, and he also promised that he will visit China.

"So this will be an opportunity for me to again meet with the same governors that I met in July in Utah, to continue our discussion on economic cooperation," he said.

The governor reiterated that U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano will continue to exercise her parole authority to allow Chinese and Russian tourists to enter the CNMI. Chinese and Russian tourists are emerging tourism markets for the Commonwealth.

The six-member delegation of state and territorial governors headed for China is led by Washington State's Chris Gregoire, the immediate past chair of NGA.

Gregoire will be joined by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue, Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie, and the CNMI governor.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, who is accompanying Fitial to China, said the U.S.-China Governors Forum was established to strengthen a sub-national dialogue between the two countries and will be co-convened by NGA and the Chinese People's Associations for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

The Forum serves as a platform to promote peer-to-peer discussions between U.S. governors and Chinese provincial leaders about topics of mutual interest and to explore opportunities in promoting practical cooperation between the two sides, the administration said.

"If we want to see job and economic growth in the Commonwealth, then we have to work closely with our international partners who have thriving economies. The Forum provides a tremendous opportunity to explore job creation opportunities and build greater economic ties abroad that seeks to benefit us all for the future," Fitial said in a statement.

Fitial hopes the dialogues in Beijing will capture not only traditional business relationships, but also place an emphasis on air service, energy innovation, tourism and cultural exchanges.

U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke is expected to host a reception for the governors.

Earlier this year, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi signed a memorandum of understanding supporting the establishment of a U.S.-China Governors Forum.

The first Forum was held during the NGA Annual Meeting in Utah last July. NGA Corporate Fellows Coca-Cola Company, FMC and Walmart are helping to sponsor the delegation.

Fitial's trip to Beijing today comes less than a week after returning from the Philippines. Prior to that, he was also in Shanghai. He also made official and personal trips to New Caledonia, Japan, Pohnpei, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and other states on the mainland including Washington, D.C., California, Utah and Alaska so far this year.

IRS: Defunct Ladera school owes $13,133

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has disclosed that the owner of the defunct Ladera International School of Saipan owes $13,133.26 in federal taxes.

IRS filed Thursday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI a notice of federal tax lien on Ladera International School of Saipan for its failure to pay the Employers Quarterly Federal Tax Return for the tax period ending Dec. 31, 2009.

IRS said they are giving notice that taxes (including interest and penalties) have been assessed against Ladera and that they have made a demand for payment of this liability—to no avail.

"There is a lien in favor of the United States on all property and rights to property belonging to this taxpayer for the amount of these taxes, and additional penalties, interest, and costs that may accrue," IRS stated in the notice.

IRS also filed a notice of federal tax lien on Ladera in April 2010, saying that the school failed to pay a total of $10,649.65 in Employers Quarterly Federal Tax Return for the tax period ending on March 32, 2009, and Sept. 30, 2009.

The Ladera school shut down operations in August 2010 after more than four years of hosting local and foreign students.

In late February 2011, Ladera's former owners—brothers Yong Nam Park and Yong Sung Park and their parent, Pil Hwan Park—filed a $1-million lawsuit against the school's operator, Sung Yun Kim, for allegedly mismanaging the school and embezzling its funds.

In May 2011, Bank of Saipan Inc. sued Yong Nam Park and Sung Yun Kim for allegedly failing to pay $300,822 in loan and damages.

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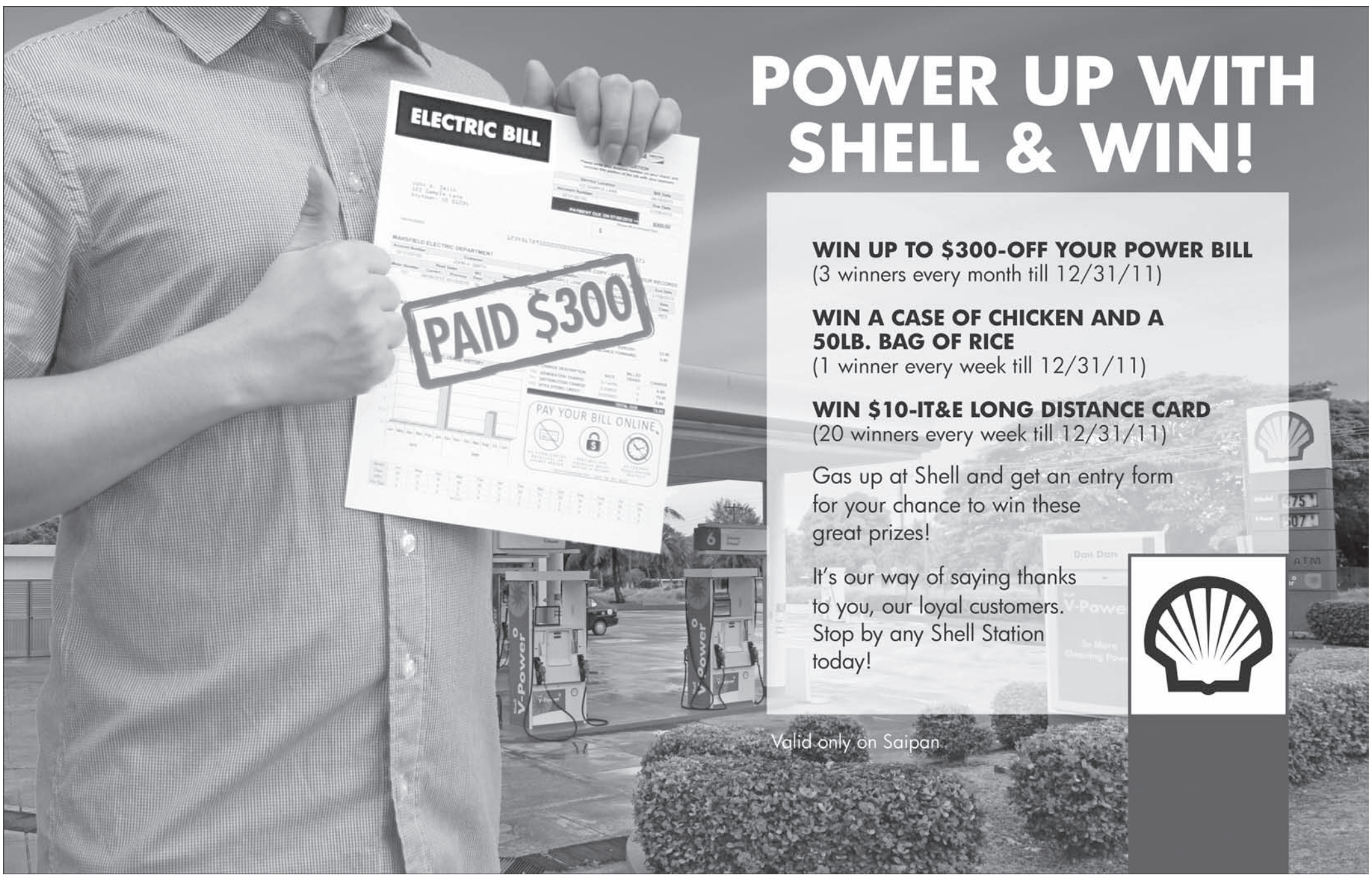
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MALAE

From Page 1

time…without finishing a lot of these important works," Malae said.

Malae's two-year contract will expire in November 2012.

It was in August this year when Malae first announced his election bid and plans to leave his post by March next year.

Malae said that "there was no pressure or whatsoever" in the sudden change of his plans. "It's solely my personal decision."

The Fitial administration welcomed Malae's decision.

"Continuity is a major key to the long-term rehabilitation of our lone utilities agency. While the administration supported Mr. Malae's earlier decision to run for governor of American Samoa, the administration has since learned that he is no longer running for the post. The administration is certainly pleased that he will continue his valued service and leadership at CUC," press secretary Angel Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said the administration knows that Malae's latest decision came with a tremendous degree of difficulty, given his desire to serve the people in his homeland. "Nonetheless, we are grateful for Mr. Malae's concern and his determination to work toward maintaining stability at CUC and the goal of making reliable and affordable energy solutions available for everyone in the Commonwealth," said Demapan.

Malae ran as governor for American Samoa in November 2008 and finished second. He left his Senate seat in Sa'ole county in the Fono (Legislature) in 2009 to accept the CUC position after the CNMI government asked for his help to turn around the then-troubled utilities corporation, which has been in state of emergency since 2008 due to its poor services and condition.

He was first hired as assistant executive director and later succeeded Tony Muña as executive director in October 2010.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 22nd birthday to the world's greatest dad, Byron Lester Cruz! Hope you have a wonderful day. Lots of kisses and hugs going out to you. Love, Baby Kayven and Alyssa.

PAROLE

From Page 1

the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, respectively.

"I thanked both officials for the outreach efforts of the USCIS team in the Northern Marianas, which briefed over 4,000 individuals in 50 different group meetings on the new Commonwealth-Only Transitional Worker Regulations," Sablan added.

Sablan's HR 1466 seeks to grant CNMI-only resident status for four groups of people: 1. Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008 and continuing to be on the islands; 2. CNMI permanent residents; 3. Those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974 and Jan. 9, 1978; and 4. The spouses or children, "as defined in section 101(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)), of an alien described in subclauses (I) or (II)."

The bill has already passed the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee and now heads for action by the full U.S. House of Representatives.

But Sablan doesn't think that his bill will become law by Nov. 27, when nonresidents need to have a federal transitional or other immigration status, or they could face deportation unless they are granted parole or parole in place.

Rene Reyes, president of Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, said nothing stops those covered by HR 1466 from applying for humanitarian parole in place.

Reyes attended the Micronesian Legal Services' parole in place workshop at American Memorial Park, as well as the information caravan hosted by the Philippine Consulate General yesterday afternoon.

He said that one of the things that caught his attention at the MLSC workshop is the sample letter requesting humanitarian parole in place, which include cases when a foreigner is among those covered in HR 1466.

"But as MLSC said, it's discretionary, on case-by-case basis, and would depend on USCIS. So if they are covered in HR 1466, and they would want to try to apply for humanitarian parole, then they should," he said.

'Message to foreign workers'

Doromal wrote a message to foreign workers in the CNMI with her assessment of the immigration situation based on her last three trips to Washington, D.C. in June, July, and last week.

In her visit last week, she was accompanied by United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed.

"The outlook is bleak, but I will keep trying until the last foreign worker leaves," Doromal told *Saipan Tribune*.

Doromal also gave permission to quote statements from her blog Unheard No More, available on unheardnomore.blogspot.com.

In her message to workers, she said she's "deeply ashamed of how my country has and continues to treat you."

"Please know that there are people who care about all of you and there are officials who are trying to help all of you to achieve justice. …Advocating for the CNMI's foreign workers has always been a privilege and honor for me," she said.

Doromal brought up with federal officials the urgent need for legislation to grant permanent residency status to the estimated 16,000 legal, long-term foreign workers of the CNMI. She said the estimate is now lower.

She asked that either HR 1466 be amended to include an additional category of all long-term (five or more years) legal, aliens representing the 12,000 "who were callously omitted from the bill, or to introduce a new bill to include all legal, long-term foreign workers."

She also presented problems and concerns with the transitional Commonwealth-only worker program, and asked that the U.S. government ensure that victims of wage theft receive justice.

She also brought up questions concerning the Nov. 27, 2011, deadline and the plight of the workers who have no "home" to return to after devoting so many years to working legally in the CNMI.

"Finally, I want you to know that I stand with you whether your choice is to remain hopeful, to return to your homeland, or to stay in the CNMI—in or out of status. I stand with you whether you decide to take to the streets, to appeal to officials in letters or petitions, or to remain silent. I stand with those with a foreign born child or spouse, those with a U.S. citizen child or spouse, those who are gay and those who are single. I remain in awe of your courage, strength and dignity under such stressful and uncertain circumstances. You are truly deserving of praise and admiration. You will always have mine," she said.

HUNDREDS

From Page 1

face deportation from the CNMI.

The Quichochos are now unemployed, making it harder to apply for "green card" which would cost the couple "at least" $2,000. The husband also now has a disability.

"I cannot bear to be separated from my family if I lose my status. We're hoping that I will be able to apply for a parole in place and a green card," Mrs. Quichocho told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday.

Quichocho is just one of the hundreds of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens who are now scrambling to apply for a parole in place to allow them to lawfully remain in the CNMI beyond Nov. 27 while their green card or other immigration status applications are being processed.

At least 250 of these immediate relatives of U.S. citizens trooped to the American Memorial Park indoor auditorium yesterday afternoon for a parole in place workshop that Micronesian Legal Services Corp. conducted.

MLSC directing attorney Jane Mack, who led the parole in place workshop along with staff attorney Linda Wingenbach and other staffers, said they anticipated a huge volume of individuals to participate in yesterday's workshop so they planned for two separate sessions—one at 1pm and the other, at 3pm.

But some people interviewed said they were at the AMP auditorium as early as 10am just to be able to get in and take part in the MLSC workshop.

Yesterday's workshop drew more than the one MLSC held recently for immediate relatives of Freely Associated States citizens where only about 50 showed up.

At yesterday's workshop, immediate relatives of U.S. citizens were given a roundup of how to prepare a request letter to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for a humanitarian parole in place, the supporting documents needed, filling up Form G-325 and meeting other requirements.

Mack repeatedly reminded people that a grant of parole in place is discretionary, on a case-by-case basis, and is decided by USCIS.

Quichocho said she's thankful for the MLSC workshop because she got to learn about and understand the requirements in applying for a humanitarian parole in place.

She said it's her fault that she and her husband are now scrambling to obtain parole in place and green card for her.

"When we were still employed and just got married, my husband and I were hearing people say that once aliens are given green card, they leave their husband or wife behind and they go to the states. I told my husband from the beginning I will prove to him that I'm not like the others, that I love him and I will always be by his side. But because of the federal government requirement, I now have to get my green card or I could be deported," she said.

'My children are fighting in the war'

Elizabeth Mendoza, who came to Saipan as a nonresident worker in 1989 and lost her job two years ago, said she wants to apply for humanitarian parole in place to give her U.S. citizen son time to petition her as an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen.

Her son is turning 21 on June 1.

Mendoza said her son is in the U.S. Army and is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

"My son doesn't want me and my husband to leave Saipan. All we want is to be given just a few months before our son could petition us," she told *Saipan Tribune* at the MLSC workshop yesterday. "My son is fighting a U.S. war, and we hope the U.S government would grant us parole in place until we're petitioned as IRs."

Mendoza and her husband, who came to Saipan to work in 1986, also adopted two other children, one of whom is also a sergeant in the U.S. Army and bound for Afghanistan next week.

"It would be a sad day for the whole family if we have to leave Saipan while our children are in the war. They shouldn't be worrying about us because they are in the war, but they are worried," she added.

'He left me'

Wirantri S. Truss, originally from Thailand, said she just applied for green card last week despite being married to a U.S. citizen in 1992 and now has two children—one is 17 years old and the other is 12 years old.

Truss, 50, said her first husband didn't work to get her a green card because he thought she would leave him for another man if she has one. They divorced.

She said her second husband abandoned her even before applying a green card for her.

"Lawyer said if I sue my husband, I could apply for green card. But I need parole in place first so I can stay," she said after attending the MLSC workshop.

Elena Whitenack, 55, said her U.S. citizen husband brought her to Saipan in 1994. But her husband died in 2002 without fixing her green card. She now has only weeks to work on her parole in place to give her more time to apply for a green card or she could be deported from the CNMI.

"I'm confused and stressed out. I don't know where I will get the money to apply for green card," said the mother of a 10-year-old.

Marilou Manglona, 49, said the expensive green card is also holding them back from applying for one.

She said her husband of 18 years now couldn't afford to pay for a green card application because he's now unemployed. They also have to fend for their children—18, 13, and 9 years old.

Another nonresident working at a poker arcade said she went to the MLSC workshop to see whether she could also apply for a humanitarian parole in place because her employer has not even talked to them whether their foreign employees would be petitioned for a Commonwealth-only worker status or CW status.

She said their employer has not even posted job vacancy announcements to see whether qualified U.S. workers will apply for the foreign workers' positions, with only about a month left before Nov. 27.

"I'm afraid I would lose my status. My child is only 11 years old. I don't want to be separated from my child," she said.

Yolanda Aluag, 57, said she wanted to learn more about parole in place so she went to the MLSC workshop even though she's not an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen.

She said it's her day off anyway, so she decided to attend the workshop. She said when she got to the American Memorial Park auditorium at 12:30pm, the auditorium was already filled to capacity for the 1pm session, so she and over a hundred more had to wait for the 3pm session.

More free MLSC workshops

Besides holding parole in place workshops for immediate relatives of FAS and U.S. citizens, MLSC also held a workshop on Tinian on Friday.

Next Sunday, MLSC will hold a final parole in place workshop for CNMI permanent residents and for those born between 1974 and 1978 also at the American Memorial Park auditorium.

MLSC has been holding these workshops free of charge to participants.

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig, at yesterday's information caravan in Susupe about immigration, parole in place and related matters, said the consulate general advised immediate relatives of U.S. citizens to go to the MLSC workshop instead so they would learn about parole in place application.

He said this is among the reasons why there were not that many at the information caravan in Susupe, while hundreds were at the MLSC workshop.

Last week, many jobless foreigners wrongfully thought they could apply for and be granted parole or parole in place so they could stay in the CNMI up to Jan. 31, 2012, and find a job.

Without a CW petition filed for them by Nov. 27, nonresidents will lose their status to remain in the CNMI and could face deportation unless they fall under those categories that are eligible for parole.

They include CNMI permanent residents, immediate relatives of CNMI permanent residents, spouses, and children of deceased CNMI permanent residents, and immediate relatives of FAS citizens or those from Palau, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia's Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, and Yap.

Parole in place is also available for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens who need more time to change their immigration status, including obtaining green card.

Foreign workers who have parole in place that already expired or is expiring on Nov. 27 and who will be applied for CW status are also required to file for a parole in place extension. This will allow them to stay in the CNMI at least up to Jan. 31, 2012, or while their CW petition is being processed.

Mobil: It's no just crude prices that govern pump prices

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The price of gas at the pump is affected by a combination of factors, so a drop in crude oil prices alone won't necessarily mean price reduction for Saipan motorists, according to Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc.

Saipan motorists have been hoping to see a reduction in pump prices, now that the price of crude oil is in the $80-a-barrel range from about $100 a barrel months ago.

Jaime Andrés Ortega, president and lead country manager for Mobil Oil Guam Inc./Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc./Mobil Oil Micronesia Inc., said there is not one single factor that impacts prices at the pump on Saipan, "and trying to draw a link between one factor, such as crude price or inventory stock purchase price, and prices at the pump, would lead to the wrong conclusion."

"Again, there are many factors that affect the pump prices in Saipan," he said in response to *Saipan Tribune* inquiry.

Ortega said that Mobil shares the concerns of people on Saipan about the cost of fuel and its impact on everyday life.

"For this reason, we remain strongly committed to our role: To provide reliable and affordable energy to the community, in a safe and environmentally responsible way," he said.

Benusto Piteg, of Koblerville, said a portion of the $50 he spends to buy gas every week could have been used to buy food, had Mobil and Shell reduced their prices as a result of a drop in crude oil costs.

"We need relief from paying $4.75 a gallon for regular gas," the resident said.

Just like many other island residents, Piteg hopes that relief will come soon.

Jeff Boyer, CNMI area manager for IP&E/Shell, earlier said that the CNMI is still using "high-end stocks" but is about to change to "newer products."

For motorists, this could mean price reduction, although there's no telling when.

Mobil's Ortega explained that retail pump prices are affected by a combination of factors, which include internationally traded wholesale prices, operating and capital cost, distribution costs, taxes and duties, currency exchange rates, and market competition.

He also said there are various crude price indices, such as Nymex WTI and Dubai Crude, to name a couple, and the prices can vary between them.

"More importantly, pump prices do not rise or fall at the same time or magnitude as crude prices, for the reason that pump prices are affected by a combination of factors, and crude prices are just one of these many factors. Commodity and product prices, while linked, also have different supply and demand dynamics," he said.

In Guam and Saipan, for example, pump prices are more directly related to the price of the MOPS (Mean of Platts Singapore) index, which is in turn heavily influenced by regional product demand and supply factors, Ortega said.

Currently, for instance, a major refinery outage in Singapore is placing upward pressure on MOPS, he added.

As to the question of when Saipan or CNMI motorists can see price reduction, Ortega said it is not Mobil's practice to speculate about where pump prices would go in future "for antitrust reasons."

Mobil and Shell/IP&E do not issue advance notices of price changes, so many Saipan motorists only learn of price changes by the price displays at gasoline stations.

The last time Mobil and Shell changed their prices was in July, increasing prices by 10 cents a gallon.

Since then, a gallon of regular unleaded gas has been $4.759 a gallon, while super/premium unleaded gasoline is $5.079 a gallon. Diesel is $5.219 a gallon, higher than the current CNMI minimum wage of $5.05 an hour.

Gas prices in the CNMI are among—if not the—highest in the U.S. and its territories.

106 children on Head Start wait list

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If the Public School System's kindergarten program recorded a significant decline in the number of children on its wait list, it's a different case for the Head Start program because over a hundred children are now waiting for an opportunity to be accommodated in its classrooms.

Head Start director Melissa Palacios disclosed Friday that a total of 106 children are on the program's wait list this school year, slightly higher than last year's 96. Majority of them, she said, are 3-year-olds.

Palacios said that all 96 children from last year's wait list are now in classrooms so those on their wait list are all first-timers on the list.

Wait-listed children are only accepted when a Head Start student withdraws from the program. Those who take the place of students that withdraw are chosen based on who is the next most eligible in line.

Head Start enrollment is governed by the funding it gets from the federal government. Some four years ago, Head Start's authorized enrollment was at 579. This went down to 462 as a result of a decrease in funding allotment for the program.

According to PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, the only way enrollment can be expanded is when federal funds for the program increase. He said that each year, CNMI Head Start receives about half a million dollars for its 462 enrollees. He explained that a formula is being followed in calculating the funding allotment for outlying areas.

Palacios reported to the Education Board Friday that the program remains compliant with federal requirements such as the mandated 10-percent enrollment of children with disabilities. This school year, there are 55 students with disabilities under the program, which represents 12 percent of the entire Head Start population.

She also announced that the Public School System was able to hire classroom teachers with associate degrees, as mandated by federal rules. However, because many of these degree holders are new to the program, they lack the necessary number of years of experience.

As a result, CNMI Head Start has submitted a "request for waiver" for these teachers and is now awaiting a response from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Head Start program provides developmental services for low-income children ages 3 to 5 and social services for their families. There are 10 Head Start centers on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Happy Wedding Anniversary!!!
Bert and Marites Mendoza
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Protecting Your Eyes From the Sun
The sun's primary danger is in the form of ultraviolet (UV) radiation. This can have adverse long and short-term effects on the eyes and your vision. There are many things you can do to prevent this, especially wearing sunglasses and lenses that offer UV protection. We welcome you to come in and talk to us about what you can do to protect yourself.
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Commerce to host CNMI US Eligible Workers Job Expo

The CNMI Department of Commerce will be hosting a CNMI U.S. Eligible Workers Job Expo on Oct. 21, 2011, at the Multi-Purpose Center from 8:30am to 2pm.

The event is geared to allow CNMI businesses currently announcing their job vacancies to meet and interview candidates on the spot.

Participating employers will receive a certificate of participation from the CNMI Department of Commerce certifying that the employer participated in the job expo and made efforts to secure U.S. Eligible Workers (U.S. citizens, FAS citizens, and green card holders) for the positions within their organization.

While the space is limited, the event will provide 30 CNMI employers the opportunity to interact with a variety of candidates, collect résumés, conduct interviews, and advertise their business lines to the public. It also will allow eligible applicants to interact with representatives from each business and explore the variety of job opportunities available. Many of these vacancies are being announced through local media outlets and through various websites in an effort to meet the criteria for the I-129CW forms.

"What this effort does is bring employers and job candidates together in one place to explore the job opportunities that are currently being announced. Participation does not guarantee that employment will be secured or that an employer will find the right candidate, but it certainly increase the chances of that occurring," said acting Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar.

The event will kick off with a meet-and-greet session for participating employers with Interior Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta and local dignitaries. This will be followed by opening remarks from Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Babauta. Following the opening remarks, Babauta will announce the sub-grant awards to the various government and nonprofit agencies who competed for the CNMI Department of Commerce's Economic and Labor Enhancement Program. The sub-grant awardees will be on-site to market their respective programs to potential participants in helping them secure additional employment skills.

Participating employers will post their job vacancy announcements no later than Oct. 19, 2011 on http://jobs.marianas.us so that potential candidates may review the variety of opportunities available prior to the event. Candidates will be able to respond to the announcement and express interest via the website. The posting on this website is simply to provide job candidates the opportunity to sort through the various positions from the employers who will be on site so that they may better target which employers that they want to interact with.

Candidates should be ready to discuss the opportunities by preparing an adequate number of copies of their resumes for employers to review, dress appropriately for a job opportunity, and research the firms that they are interested in working for.

"This event is well timed given the dynamics of US Public Law 110-229. CNMI businesses are trying to locate US Citizens and eligible CNMI residents to replace the Foreign Labor pool and we feel that this effort will allow employers an opportunity to interact with U.S. eligible workers pool. This is also an opportune time for CNMI government employees to seek out part-time opportunities and other employment options given the continued austerity measures within the public sector," said Igisomar. ***(Office of the Governor)***

Ex-insurance company staff set for trial on 54 criminal charges

A former cashier-underwriter of an insurance company will undergo a jury trial at the Superior Court on 54 criminal charges for allegedly embezzling money from her then employer and forging a credit card charges.

Associate judge David A. Wiseman said that a bench warrant will be issued against Rochelle Mendiola Camacho if she fails to appear at the Oct. 31, 2011, trial.

Wiseman ordered the Office of the Attorney General to inform the court on or before Oct. 27, 2011, if any of the 54 counts are non-jury counts.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Camacho with 17 counts of forgery, seven counts of theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received, 10 counts of misuse of credit card, 10 counts of identity theft, and 10 counts of theft by unlawful taking.

An investigator for the White Collar Crimes/Public Corruption Task Force stated in his report that it was the manager of Marianas Insurance Co. Inc. who reported the alleged embezzlement to the Department of Public Safety in October 2009 after the company's accountant uncovered Camacho's alleged anomaly.

The investigator said the audit showed that many receipts were altered, cash payments received were under-reported, check payments had no receipts, and credit card holders' signatures were forged.

The information did not indicate how much amount was involved in the alleged embezzlement. The investigator's report in 2009, however, indicated that over $13,000 was embezzled.

Camacho also allegedly stole a total of $1,634.10 by forging a credit card belonging to another person and using it to purchase items at different stores on Saipan in 2009.

Camacho has pleaded not guilty. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
Jose M. Sablan Building Susupe
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-9000 (24 HRS)
Facsimile: (670) 664-9019

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public, businesses, non-government organizations, governments agencies, homeowners, and any affected individuals that the Department of Public Safety, Commonwealth Fire Division, Fire Prevention and Arson Investigation Unit has updated its fire code fees and fines and will begin the permitting process and enforcement of Public Law 11-56, "Commonwealth Fire Safety Code Act of 1988". Effective November 11, 2011.

Any or all concerned parties are to contact the respective divisions in the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian and speak to any of the following individuals.

SAIPAN

Dispatch:	664-9003 Line 1, 664-9004 Line 2
Capt. Julian Tagabuel:	664-9032 Office, 898-7714 Cellular
Lt. Kevin Aldan:	664-9135 Office, 898-3414 Cellular

TINIAN

Lt. Augustine Dosalua:	433-0476 Office, 898-3461 Cellular

ROTA

Lt. Ron Ogo:	532-3736 Office, 898-3448 Cellular

FOR EMERGENCIES: DIAL 9-1-1

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND
"Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RF11-006
"GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES"

OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2011 CLOSING DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2011

To receive the RFP packet, you may mail-in, fax, or email your request to:
Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247, Saipan, MP 96950
Fax No: (670) 664-8080
Email: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

Preference is available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the proposal if preference is claimed.

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND
"Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RF11-007
"OFFICE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES"

OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2011 CLOSING DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2011

To receive the RFP packet, you may mail-in, fax, or email your request to:
Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247, Saipan, MP 96950
Fax No: (670) 664-8080
Email: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

Preference is available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the proposal if preference is claimed.

Mathcourt prelim draws biggest number of participants

» Over 580 students, 23 schools grace first event

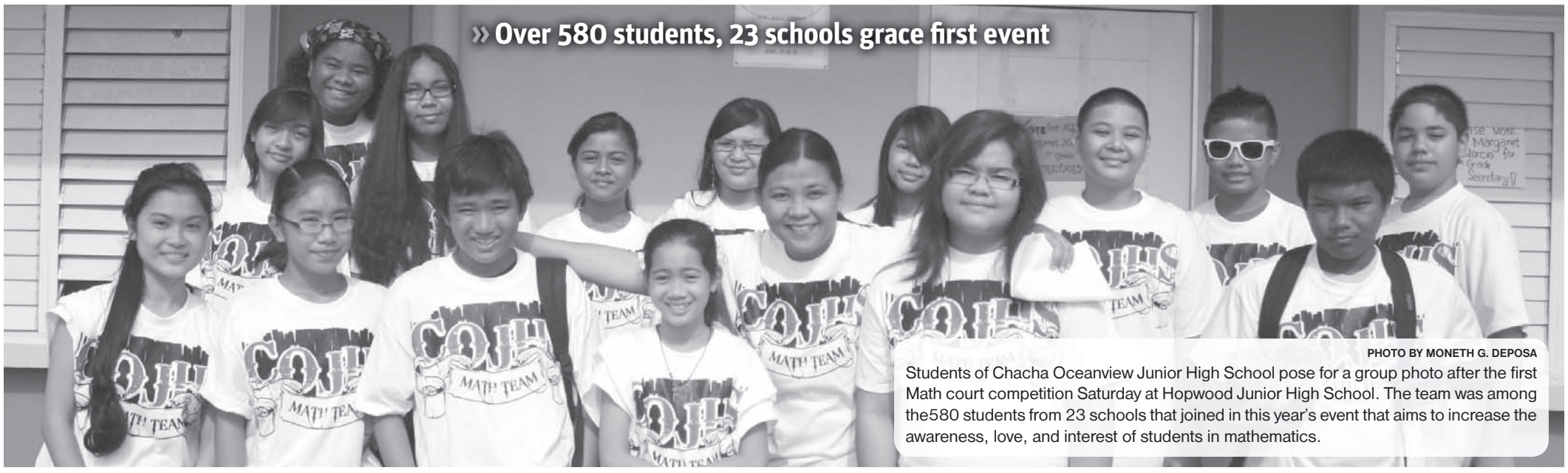

PHOTO BY MONETH G. DEPOSA

Students of Chacha Oceanview Junior High School pose for a group photo after the first Math court competition Saturday at Hopwood Junior High School. The team was among the580 students from 23 schools that joined in this year's event that aims to increase the awareness, love, and interest of students in mathematics.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The first of a series of Mathcourt events for the year attracted its biggest crowd yet on Saturday, pulling in over 500 students in 23 public and private schools on three islands.

Dora Miura, Mathcourt coordinator for the senior division, expressed satisfaction with the 580 sixth to 12th graders that took part in the preliminary competition held at Hopwood Junior High School. She said the number is so far the biggest ever among the higher grade levels.

The CNMI Mathcourt competition is a series of meets that occur throughout the school year. At each meet, several tests are offered to measure the mathematical achievement of students at every grade level and award those students showing the highest levels of mastery at each level. For the senior division, three competitions are scheduled throughout the year, which include the first two preliminaries—on Saturday and in November—before the regional contest in January. To qualify for the regional, participants must be ribbon-winners in these first two events. PSS has been sending team to the national Mathcourt event for the past two years. This year's national contest will be in Kansas, Missouri in May.

Miura said the CNMI Team will be selected from the top competitors of which one will come from middle school and four from high school. They will undergo extensive preparation, mimicking the competition's national format.

"This is our third time to the national competition. We did pretty decently last year in Kansas City and have seen improvements from the year before [at the Las Vegas competition]. We hope to see more improvement again with our team this year," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Saturday's competition was based on the Public School System's "benchmark mapping." For high school competitors, the categories were algebra, advanced algebra, and geometry. For middle schools, the category is grade level mathematics.

After the 6-12th grade division, the competition for kindergarten to fifth grade will begin in February, headed by its coordinator, Reo Arriola. Although there are also three events in the elementary division, there is no national competition yet for the regional winners.

The objective of the competition is to increase awareness for mathematics, raise the interest and love for the subject, and to improve math abilities.

Eighth grader Peter Santos, who has been joining Mathcourt competitions since elementary, said that his participation has only increased his love and interest for mathematics. "It's my favorite subject and I really enjoy doing it," he said.

For Chacha Oceanview 8th grader Kelsey Lizama, Mathcourt not only enhances her ability for the subject but also makes her more competitive. Like other participants, Lizama is a constant Mathcourt contender since her elementary days.

Arianne Narvaez, an 8th grader from Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, sees the competition as a great help for all student. "Math is everywhere and anywhere. We can always use whatever we learn from here—at home, in school, and in our future. Through these competitions, we are able to enjoy and appreciate more the beauty of mathematics," she said.

Man allegedly beats up common-law wife

A man was arrested last week after he allegedly beat up his common-law wife and threatened to kill her at their residence in Kagman III.

Ray Reyes Fitial, 27, was taken to the Superior Court last week on charges of assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace. His bail was set at $1,750 cash. Preliminary hearing is tomorrow, Tuesday.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that Fitial hit his wife on the head with his hand, kicked her on the right leg, and slapped her Oct. 9.

The victim ran to their neighbor's house where she sought help in calling the police. She told a responding police officer it was not the first time Fitial assaulted her, but she just kept the previous incidents for herself. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Coral Ocean Point Resort Club

New Management Awards

Coral Ocean Point New Management awards Most Improved employee the month of August, Joel Manzanadez Greenskeeper Super-Intendent (from left) Joe Muna, Hotel & Golf Course Asst.Manager, Marilyn Taitano, Purchasing Supervisor, Lucio Aldan, Gen. Coordinator, Joel Manzanadez and Gen. Operations Manager, Rowina Torres.

Coral Ocean Point New Management awards employee of the month to Matilde David for the months of August & September (from left) Joe Muna Hotel & Golf Course Asst. Manager, Lucio Aldan, Gen. Coordinator, Matilde David, Comptroller and Rowina Torres, Gen. Operations Manager.

Coral Ocean Point New Management awards Deparment of the month to Maintenance Dept., Rey Villanueva and Edward Ferrer. (from left) Joe Muna, Hotel & Golf Course Asst. Manager, Lucio Aldan, Gen. Coordinator, Rey Villanueva, Edward Ferrer and Rowina Torres, Gen. Operations Manager.

Coral Ocean Point New Management awards Most Improved Employee, Thompson Palikkun for the month of September. (From left) Joe Muna, Hotel & Golf Course Asst. Manager, Palikkun Thompson, Pro-Shop Asst. Manager, Lucio Aldan, Gen. Coordinator & Rowina Torres, General Operations Manager.

Coral Ocean Point new management awards General Operations Manager award to Marilyn Taitano for the months of August and September. (from left) Joe Muna, Hotel & Golf Course Asst. Manager, Lucio Aldan, Gen. Coordinator, Marilyn Taitano, Purchasing Supervisor & Rowina Torres, General Operations Manager.

RAY DeLeon Guerrero (far left) and Victorino Deleon Guerrero accepting donation of pandamus nut free seedling from Coral Ocean Point Resort Club Pro-Shop Manager Herman Taitano and Greenskeeper Jonathan Taitano.

Coral Ocean Point New Management awards Department of the month to Pro-Shop Department, receiving the Award is Pro-Shop Manager, Herman Taitano and his staff together with the management team and Ms. Rowina Torres, General Operations Manager.

CNMI Water Task Force
ITB 11-GOV- 141

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting Sealed Bids from qualified individuals or firms for the procurement of the supply and delivery of various materials for use in the optimization of the water wellheads on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Bidders must bid on all items. A contract will be awarded to one supplier for all bid items

The procurement specifications and special terms and conditions will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan on or after **September 19, 2011**.

Any questions regarding this Invitation for Bids should be addressed to Mr. Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, CNMI Water Task Force at (670) 664-2285, or via facsimile at (670) 664-2279 before **October 3, 2011.**

Sealed Bids must be marked "**Supply of Wellhead Materials**", **ITB11-GOV- 141.** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than **2:00 p.m., local time, October 18, 2011**. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days of receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **2:00 p.m., local time, October 18, 2011** and must be transmitted via facsimile to **(670) 664-1515** or via e-mail to procurement@pticom,com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Services or the official government postal service no later than **October 18, 2011** AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than **October 27, 2011**.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **2:00 p.m., local time, October 28, 2011**. However, if no notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, the bids will be opened at **2:00 p.m., local time, October 19, 2011.**

Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. Award of a contract is contingent upon approval from DOI/OIA.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all proposal and to waive any imperfection in a proposal in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All Proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

CUC-RFEI-12-001

Requests for Expressions of Interest
For the Purchase or Operation of Public Utilities
(A Non-Binding, Informal Market Survey)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), a public corporation, is interested in the potential for privatization of its services. Desired is for interested firms, individuals, or groups to present an "Expression of Interest" for the privatization and/or transfer of CUC Utility Services. Expressions of Interest may include in whole, in part, or in business sector: direct purchase, operating contract schemes, and/or utility agency or co-operative formation(s) for the Electrical Power Generation Systems, Electrical Transmission and Distribution Systems, and Water and Wastewater Utility Services.

The Request for Expressions of Interest is an exploratory project in order to survey market interest in owning and/or operating the utility. It is not intended to be a formal or informal procurement process and CUC does not express or imply that any future procurement and/or acquisition process will occur, or that any preference will be given to those replying.

The CUC invites suitably qualified utility owners and operators with proven records of accomplishment in power generation, transmission, distribution, and water and wastewater utility ownership and operations to submit an EOI to purchase and operate the referenced CUC operations and facilities. CUC will review all Expressions of Interests received, and based in part on these submittals, will decide on whether to pursue privatization further. This EOI is an exploratory survey of market interest only.

The CUC-RFEI-12-001 packet will be e-mailed, upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted by hand or courier in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFEI-12-001" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 16, 2011 (ChST). Late submission will not be considered.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on December 12, 2011 to Alan Fletcher, Deputy Director for Water/Wastewater via email alan.fletcher@cucgov.org; Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika.muna@cucgov.org. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective respondents who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Convicted ex-cop raises his fruit bat case to 9th Circuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Adrian Atalig Mendiola, a retired police lieutenant who was sentenced to 90 days in prison for killing endangered Mariana fruit bats on Rota, is appealing his conviction to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mendiola raised three legal issues in his appeal for the Ninth Circuit to reverse his conviction.

Mendiola said the first issue is whether there was sufficient evidence that the bats found inside his freezer were of the subspecies protected by federal law, *Pteropus mariannus mariannus*.

Mendiola, through counsel Ramon Quichocho, previously brought up the *Pterupus mariannus mariannus* issue in his motion for judgment of acquittal or for a new trial. The District Court denied the motion.

Quichocho had argued in that motion that the record is devoid of any evidence to show that the bats found in his freezer were indeed of the *Pteropus mariannus mariannus* subspecie.

The second issue on appeal is whether there was sufficient evidence that the "freezer bats" were taken on or after Feb. 7, 2005, when the federal regulations criminalizing the possession of *Pteropus mariannus mariannus* became final.

Quichocho in the same motion asserted that the final rule of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife, which became effective Feb. 7, 2005, reclassified the *Pteropus mariannus mariannus* (the Mariana fruit bat) from endangered to threatened in Guam and listed as threatened in the CNMI.

Quichocho said the U.S. government failed to present any evidence, forensic or otherwise, regarding the time of death of any of the bats that were found in Mendiola's freezer.

The last issue on appeal is whether the trial court abused its discretion when it gave an allegedly erroneous supplemental jury instruction during the jury's deliberation.

A jury found Mendiola guilty in May 2011 of unlawful possession of a threatened wildlife, but not guilty of unlawful receipt or acquisition of a threatened wildlife. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Mendiola to 90 days in jail. After serving his sentence, he will be placed on six months of supervised release.

Mendiola was also ordered to pay a $1,000 fine and $10 court assessment fee and required to perform 100 hours of community service.

Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 17, 2000

CNMI gets new housing aid from HUD
The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has recently awarded the CNMI new slots under a federally-funded housing program which is expected to benefit 26 more low-income Northern Marianas families. Northern Marianas Housing Corp. Manager Diana P. Crisostimo said the new award from HUD for the Section-8 Housing Assistance Program will enable the government-controlled corporation to accommodate 26 CNMI families who have applied for the federally-funded assistance. Ms. Crisostimo said only U.S. citizens are eligible to avail of the federal assistance under the program since the HUD has started phasing out citizens of the Freely Associated States from it.

PSS readies to connect schools electronically
The Public School System is set to implement this month the first phase of its three-fold E-rate installation plan to connect schools electronically across Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. PSS officials have tapped a Honolulu-based E-rate consultant to assist the school system run through its installation plans and initiate the "wiring" process at the soonest possible time. PSS which has recently been assured of some $400,000 to match its 76 percent E-rate discount, expects to get started with the project anytime soon, according PSS Technology Coordinator Mark Savares. The 76 percent E-rate discount will cover PSS' telecommunication services to include long distance telephone services, paging services, cellular services, Internet access, and equipment.

Oct. 17, 2001

Debate on lobbying heats up
House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, an outspoken supporter of the extension of the Greenberg Traurig contract, has appealed to the CNMI media to report about the issue "as fairly as possible," even as he batted once more for the retention of the lobby group. In an open letter, Fitial said the issue surrounding the proposed extension of the Greenberg Traurig contract has been clouded by election-year politics, "and unfortunately, our entire economy may suffer if we do the wrong thing." The contract for the Washington D.C.-based lobby group ended on September 30. Under the leadership of Fitial, the House of Representatives had passed a resolution urging Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to extend the contract until December 31. Fitial is the gubernatorial candidate of the Covenant Party.

Youth voters looking for honest leaders
Results of a survey conducted among young voters reveal a snapshot of a generation that still places high premium on honesty and responsibility as traits that elected leaders must possess. Fifteen youth voters surveyed require their elected leaders to be determined, dedicated, intelligent, supportive of multi-culturalism, strong-willed, independent and open-minded to the youths' concerns. "We need someone we can look up to, a person to be trusted and remembered for a job well done. Someone who makes promises and keeps them. A candidate that can promise a better future for the CNMI," said a Marianas High School student.

Oct. 17, 2002

DPS keeps sight on fresh funds
Public Safety Commissioner Edward Camacho said yesterday he would seek the Legislature's assistance so that the money the U.S. Navy pays the Commonwealth government for docking its warships on CNMI waters would be earmarked for his department. Camacho said he would communicate with House Floor Leader Jesus Attao regarding this, saying that the money would help defray costs incurred by the department on personnel training and overtime pay. For fiscal year 2002, Camacho said the money generated from the Navy's payments reached around $400,000. The police commissioner expressed optimism that the Legislature would heed to the request, considering that the police department provides Navy ships with force protection whenever they dock within CNMI jurisdiction.

Senators, CPA to talk on wharfage fee issue
Senate Vice President Jose M. Dela Cruz is looking to relieve non-Saipan consumers from what he termed as "double jeopardy" in the wharfage fee imposed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority on Rota and Tinian consumers. Dela Cruz yesterday complained that Tinian and Rota consumers have to shoulder wharfage costs of goods shipped to Saipan on top of the wharfage fee that the ports authority assesses on the shipment when it reaches Tinian or Rota.

NMI Red Cross donates cleanup kits to CNMI schools

The NMI Red Cross recently donated hundreds of cleanup kits to both public and private schools.

J.D. Tenorio, Emergency Services director of the American Red Cross, NMI Chapter stated that they felt these kits would be put to good use in the schools—many of which double as evacuation shelters during typhoons.

"The success of our chapter in the NMI is due in large part to the great partnerships we have forged with both government and private agencies over the years, and this is our way of saying thank you for all the support we have received," Tenorio added.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer or donate, contact the local American Red Cross Chapter at 234-3459 or visit their website at www.nmi.redcross.org. ***(American Red Cross-NMI Chapter)***

From left, Red Cross Tinian volunteers Marlyn Borja, Julita Diaz, and Vivian Hofschneider pose with Ursula Viches of Tinian Elementary School in front of the cleanup materials given to the schools on Tinian.

ARC-NMI CHAPTER

ARC-NMI CHAPTER

Marianas High School students and faculty express excitement over the much needed and practical support given by the American Red Cross. The cleaning supplies are a big help for teachers as they provide a clean environment for their students to learn.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Want to quit smoking?

If you use tobacco, and you're ready to quit, or if someone you care about is ready to quit—help is available, through the Community Guidance Center's Tobacco Cessation Program. The Tobacco Cessation Program begins its next six-week cycle today, Oct. 17. Sessions will take place every Monday until Nov. 17. Call 323-QUIT (7848). ***(PR)***

Deadline for Sengebau poetry contest

The 8th Annual Sengebau Poetry Competition will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2011, at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theatre. The competition was re-scheduled to take place during CNMI Humanities Month. Participating students and schools are asked to confirm their involvement by Friday, Oct. 21, 2011. For more information, contact Merced Ada at 235-4785 or mada@pticom.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-048

Geothermal Energy Development on Saipan, CNMI
ADDENDUM NO. 1

Dated: September 2, 2011

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-RFP-11-048, Geothermal Energy Development, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marina Islands:

- The initial Scope-of-Work and Proposal Solicitation Notice for CUC-RFP-11-048 has been amended. All registered prospective Offerors will be provided with a complete copy of the amended Scope-of-Work & Proposal Solicitation Notice;
- The deadline for submission of proposals has been extended from September 6, 2011 to November 15, 2011;
- The deadline for submission of inquiries has been extended to November 1, 2011.

Stage 1, Geothermal Gradient Project

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to collect and evaluate scientific data to better determine the potential for development of geothermal energy on Saipan. Available information suggests that the geothermal gradient beneath Saipan may be sufficiently steep to develop geothermal energy to generate electricity.

The technical complexity of the Project and the need to collect and evaluate extensive data will require the successful Proposer to provide the expertise from various professional disciplines, conduct exploratory drilling, and provide equipment and materials necessary to complete the Scope of Work.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **September 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original, Six (6) copies, and one (1) digitized version (PDF) must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-048 "Saipan Geothermal Development Project" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **November 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **November 01, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Dr. James Quick, CNMI Energy Advisor and Consultant via email address jquick@smu.edu. ; Mr. Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director -Power via email address wallon59@yahoo.com and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications of prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS
United States Air Force

The U.S. Air Force will host open house public scoping meetings on the islands of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to discuss the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that is being prepared for improving an existing airfield on U.S. territory in proximity of the Philippine Sea. The proposed airfield improvements would be designed to provide the additional divert capability when necessary for sustained military aircraft operations, including joint training exercises, humanitarian assistance activities, and disaster relief operations for northeast Asia. The U.S. Air Force proposes to develop and construct facilities and infrastructure to support up to one aircraft squadron and its approximately 500 support personnel for periodic exercises, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The U.S. Air Force intends to meet its mission needs through improvement of an existing airfield in the Mariana Islands region.

The public is encouraged to attend the open house EIS scoping meetings, which will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

1. Thursday, October 13, 2011 - Barrigada Mayor's Office, Barrigada, Guam, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
2. Friday, October 14, 2011 - Dededo Mayor's Office/Senior Center, Dededo, Guam, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
3. Monday, October 17, 2011 - Saipan Multi-Purpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
4. Tuesday, October 18, 2011 - Tinian Elementary School, San Jose Village, Tinian, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
5. Thursday, October 20, 2011 - Sinapalo Elementary School Rota, Sinapalo Village, Rota, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Federal agencies, government of Guam agencies, government of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) agencies, the public, and other interested parties are encouraged to provide verbal and/or written comments to the U.S. Air Force to identify specific issues or topics for consideration in the EIS. Verbal and/or written comments may be submitted at the public meetings. Interested agencies, individuals, and groups unable to attend the public meetings are encouraged to provide written comments postmarked no later than November 10, 2011.

Mail comments to:

Capt Kimberly Bender, PACAF/PA
25 E Street, Suite G-108
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert Marianas EIS

In addition, scoping comments will be accepted via telephone voice recording system by dialing 1-855-200-6734, and via the project website at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXI, Issue No. 246

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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EDITORIAL

A close call for the 'ministerial exception'

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The Supreme Court heard arguments last week in a case that pits religious freedom against freedom from discrimination. It's a close call, but religious freedom should prevail.

Cheryl Perich was a teacher at a Lutheran school in Michigan who taught secular and religious subjects and led students in prayer. After a leave for treatment of what was diagnosed as narcolepsy, she was pressed by the school to resign. She returned to the school anyway to find her position occupied by another teacher. Faced with dismissal, she threatened to sue the school. She was then fired.

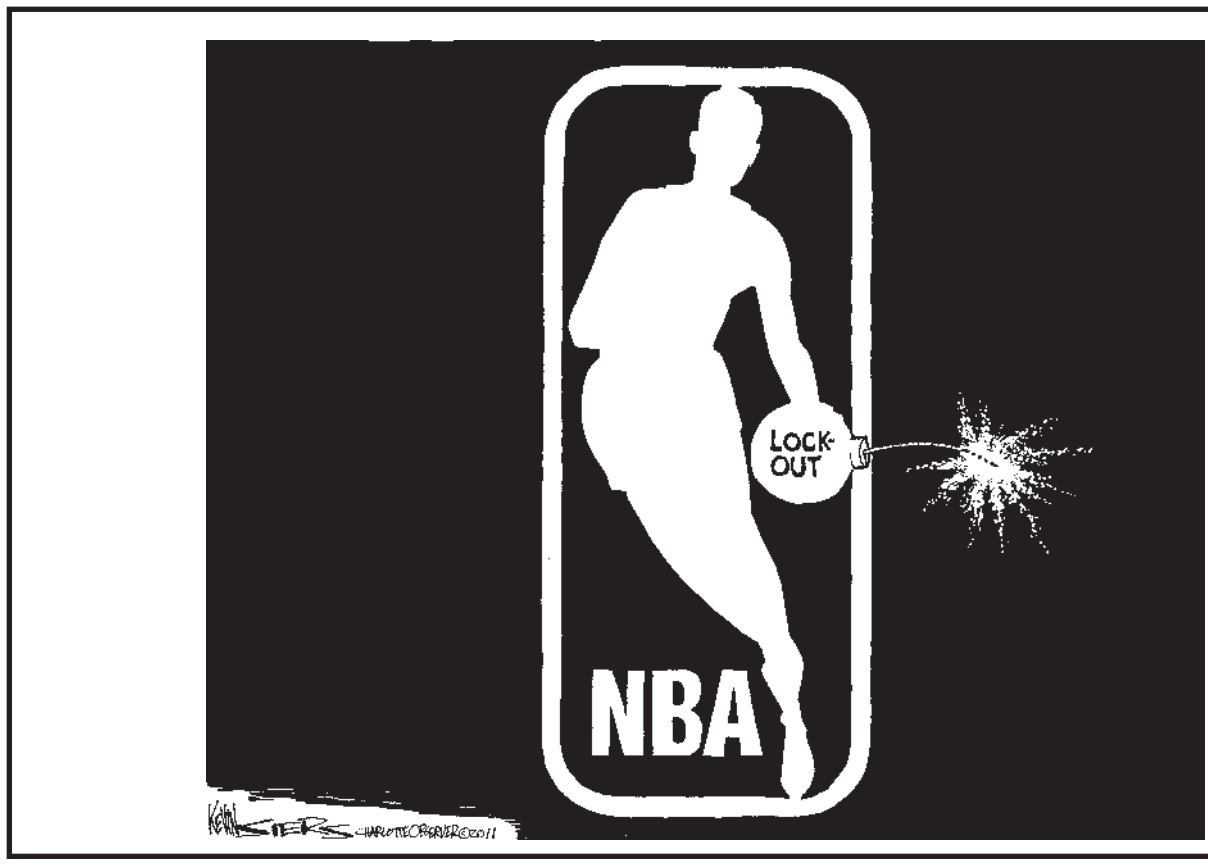
Had Perich worked for a secular organization, there would be no doubt that she could sue her employer for discrimination and retaliation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. But the school argued that it was immune to such suits because of a "ministerial exception" in the law that allows religious organizations to hire only those who share its beliefs. The school maintained that Perich was fired not because of her illness but for violating a Lutheran religious teaching—that Christians shouldn't sue other Christians in civil court. The ADA allows religious groups to "require that all applicants and employees conform to the religious tenets of such organization."

The easy part of this case is the general principle: The ministerial exception is well grounded in the religious clauses of the First Amendment. As the school's lawyer put it in his argument, "The churches do not set the criteria for selecting or removing the officers of government, and government does not set the criteria for selecting and removing officers of the church." Otherwise a Roman Catholic woman could sue her church under civil rights laws for refusing to ordain her as a priest, an action that would put the government in the position of changing the church's theology.

What makes this case difficult is that Perich was not an ordained minister but a "called" teacher who taught secular subjects. On the other hand, by virtue of being a called teacher—one who has completed religion courses—she was also a "commissioned minister." On balance, she ought to be covered by the ministerial exception, though a lay teacher would not be. That is how the court should rule.

Obviously it is impossible to prevent government from making some judgments about religion. It has to determine, for example, whether it is dealing with a religious or a secular institution. Sometimes it must also, as in this case, reach a conclusion about whether someone is or is not a minister. But those unavoidable judgments are different from second-guessing church dogma or interfering with personnel decisions.

The challenge for the court in this case is to preserve the ministerial exception without expanding it so much that anyone who works for a church or religious organization is barred from filing a discrimination complaint. But in this case the government should leave the church alone.



Responsibility, trust, faith and the Good Society

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

This morning I must be blunt and honest in my remarks. Please prove me wrong. But unless we understand what has happened to us, we will continue to become poorer and poorer. We must stand up and take control of our destiny by ourselves, not by someone else. Yes, by us—ourselves!

It appears to me that we do not understand the necessity and value of work. Instead we prefer to beg and ask for handouts while nonresident workers do the work that we should be doing. Why is it that none of us demand jobs that have been given to others? Do we prefer to line up for food stamps and other freebies? Is this the future for our beautiful islands and our wonderful people?

Please, let us wake up and pick up our picks and shovels and begin to rebuild our economy. Yes, you and I working together can jumpstart our economy. Stay with me as we probe how we can do it.

Many of our citizens have simply packed up and left the islands in despair. Many of us have become desperate in trying to make ends meet because we cannot seem to find work or are not willing to work. Workers' hours in the public sector have been drastically cut. We in the private sector are seeing our companies either closing down or on the verge of bankruptcy. Daily the situation worsens.

Increasingly I see our society coming apart. But the saddest of all this is that we citizens have lost our way and no one knows how to guide us back. Instead of looking inward to see if we are a part of the problem and seek within ourselves a solution, we keep running to the government hoping that it will solve the problems we are facing. But is the government the one who can solve our problems or are we the ones that must start the solutions?

What unusual experiences or skills do members of the government have that we do not possess? What is their previous work experience and training? Aren't they also trying to keep their jobs and will do almost anything to retain them? So how can they help when they are as desperate as we are?

While government spending can be a stimulus to economic recovery, it is not the final solution but only an impetus. In our economy, we must realize that the work each of us does is something we do together and for each other as much as for ourselves. Everything we eat, wear, use is made by the collaboration of many workers.

Doing work that is challenging and cooperative seems to fulfill a deep human need. If we feel that the workplace as well as our home really belongs to us, and contributes to the good of all, we must demand jobs and work toward a good society. In our small islands we must create work activities that will produce income as well as satisfaction.

For over the past 25 years we have gradually developed a negative attitude toward work, preferring to have others—imported labor—do our jobs. As a result we have forgotten the meaning and value of work. Part of this is our fault and part of it is the fault of the U.S. government for handing us food stamps and other benefits for free. As a result we are in a state of confusion at this time. We are being forced by the same government that allowed us to develop this negative work attitude to deport the nonresident workers. Meanwhile we are doing little to prepare ourselves for their departure.

Let us start with ourselves. We cannot change anything but we can change our attitude of expectation. We must take responsibility for what is happening to us and why it is happening. Responsibly must begin with attention. To act responsibly we must ask: What is happening? What is calling us to respond? It has been said that all our action is a response to action upon us. We are caught in an inescapable web of relationship with other human beings.

To put responsibility into action, we must approach the leaders that we put our trust into and begin questioning what are the actions they are taking and why. We must make them talk to us and help us find ways to create jobs and rebuild our economy. Instead we have become dependent on them to give us gas money, pay our utility bills, take our garbage away, and do other things instead of focusing on the role we elected them to do. For some inexplicable reason, we are neglecting our responsibility.

In addition to not practicing responsibility, our trust is being turned into mistrust. Trust is always in conflict with mistrust. Because of previous experiences a degree of mistrust is usually realistic. Yet if we become dominated by mistrust we cannot attend or interpret adequately. We cannot act accountably. Think about this: Who do we feel to be trustworthy at this time? To whom can we go to and feel that that individual will act responsibly toward the problems facing us?

There is another element that has suffered and deteriorated along with responsibility and trust. Faith in ourselves has also fallen. When I speak of faith, I refer to the strength and power we muster in ourselves as we wrestle with our problems, along with the belief that our fellow citizens will also act accordingly.

Therefore recovery must consist of us citizens acting responsibly, with trust in ourselves and in our institutions and faith in our abilities to improve them. We must take action into our own hands and demand that jobs be given to us. Not only will we be able to earn a living with our hands but the money earned will stay and circulate in the community. When enough of us join hands and practice responsibility, trust, and faith, there is a good chance to achieve a good society. Yes, it is difficult to conquer ourselves, but when that is conquered, everything is conquered.

The simple solution to most of our problems lies within us. As Shakespeare once wrote in his play *Julius Caesar*, our destiny does not lie in the stars but in ourselves. In other words we control who we are and where we are going.

No, I don't exclusively have the answers, but together we do. Look around and see the potentials and the wealth that God has provided us. Let us recall the days when our fathers and grandfathers built all the houses and roads without foreign laborers but with the sweat of their own hands. Let us recall when our fathers and grandfathers provided most of the food we ate from the labor of

See RESPONSIBILITY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Silensiu, katma i mañglo

Desde 'nos kuantos sakan malofan, hu siente maneñgheñg na sirenu 'nai mata'choñg gi entalo'ta un' sumen katma na klima. Tat hagun troñku ti bumenditu. I tautau lokue' mañgetu giya siha. I lañget apenanas pution. I pilan uma'atog gi tatten un' motmut na mapagahes.

I kabayerus gi Hegsu I Deni man-hohotnu gi maipen taloane sa' ti matuñgu hafa para umachogue para u esgaihon mona appruebau na kinalamten adelantun linala' linahyan. Esta na' tañga i katman mañglo sa' mampos silensiu. Hu konsidedera kau hagas klima i bumalutan hit 'sino kau señat na guaha ira ni fette mamamaila'?

Hu bira i asuntu guatu gi man-kabeyerus, espesiatment, hafa planon niha ni te'ug' na estau esklabu 'nai ha pega lamayot patte gi tautau-ta? I to'a yan antau na kabayeru libianu ha taitai hafa gai señat i mampos silensiu i tanu. Yangin enfin satton nu i tautauña, siempre u muebague' ya u sede adelantu na u falofan mona. Yangin este na asuntu presisu na u suha gi un' banda, sin ditension siempre sumuha pot para u sede nuebu na mañglo' umesgaihon halom fresku na kinalamten adelantu. Dispensayu' un' ratu sa' un' gagacha' pindehu i damagashu!

■■■

Gi mapos na semana, hu lie' mas ke disi-sais na guma' familia para u fan machule' tatte ni NMHC, MPLT yan banko. Guiya este siha na guma' i primet na gima' familia 'nai ni unu gi dos umasagua machochochu'.

Rason na man-tai che'chu' sa' taya chochu' gi todu atmos banda. Dispues, ti namatman yangin mana' fan basta gi offisiun niha sa' mampos kohu i kinalamten i bisnis.

Na ti magahet na tradision natibu i para un' gai gima' para i familiamu? Haye gai isau i man-tai chechu' este siha na patriatkan yan matriatkan familia? Na ti obligasion gobietnu i para u adelanta kinalamten ekonomia guine kosake siña este siha na tautau-ta u fan mañoda' offisiun niha? Lau gaige na ginen gueku na manehanten i administrasion na taiguine mapadese nu este siha na familia.

Maulegña i hegsu i Deni u mafana'an Hegsu Katbariu! Ginen hilu na diskuidu siha man-machuchuda' papa' esta i señgsoñg ni humogse yan tumiges sin presisu i linala' i tautau siha.

■■■

Gi otru mes desde 26 de Nobiembre matutuhon selebrasion haanen gupot siha. Estague' 'nai satton i natibu mannae' mit grasias gi Saina pot todu bendision niha gi mapos yan piot pagu na sakan 'nai todu man-finalulon sumen didog na chinatsaga.

Lau ni unu u malefa nu i signifikasion este na haane i Thanksgiving. Gi silensiu na tinayuyotta tanae' i Saina fietmente un' dañkulu na agradesimientu yan ta gagau lokue mas bendision ya u esgaihon hit mona gi talulu' yan didog na tiempon ha'ilas. Ni unu u seha ginen este na patte gi fitme na tradision-ta.

■■■

I mañainata finenina gumacha' eskalera siha gi kinalamten linala' tautau. I ta pokakate pagu esta hagas mafaposgue. Madimemoria amanu na banda gi plaset linala' yanu, mihoyu yan hagu' na lugat. Sin ditension, ma-apagat hau na un' suhaye hafa piligrosu yan tailaye para hagu.

Gi ayu na kanta, "Para i sainamu muñga ingratu", ha sasañgan i sensian saina ni esta ha mamattitgue' pot nesessidat famaguon niha. Mapulan hau pueñge yan haane gi halom todu klasen chinatsaga yan abundansia. Siha i fitme na halige yan pisun familia ni umesgaihon mona famaguon niha sin deskansu.

Ti apasiyun animon niha yan anchu na pinasensia gi halom i mas man-makat na karera. Ya taya' minagof niha i para umalie' na todus famaguon niha man-felis lokue' gi kareran niha Mauleg unna' satton hau nu siha.

■■■

Sige i dos amigu mumaneska gi puntan pantalan Susupe. 'Nai talulu' 'las dose, mampos maipe ya hihot tostus i dos. Ha yute'gue i unu para e'fresku. Gi biradaña hulu, ha lagnos i inaflitun petnan manog ginen betsaña ya sige ha kanu'. Ha sañgane gachoñgña ya esta duru i gipot "guihe papa'".

Ti apmam, ha yutegue' lokue i otru. Lau ha biragueensegidas hulu ya sige ha pasensiaye mayamag yan mahaga' mataña. Finaisen hafa guaha ni amiguña, ilegña, "Lapekaras, esta lai manbulachu ya i petta ha' chihu mafueguyu'". De dios. Era ha sufa' un' achu gi fina' natata".

A proud and necessary achievement

By RICHARD BROSTROM
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dr. Richard Brostrom was the Medical Director of the CNMI Division of Public Health from 2001 to 2010.

The opening of the new dialysis unit at the Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis represents a major achievement for the CNMI. From the old days of Dr. Negreti to the present, CHC has delivered dialysis care far above the U.S. standard for those who needed it. Taking care of individuals with kidney failure has always been a priority for the Department of Public Health.

Opening this center has been a monumental engineering achievement for the CNMI. Most Pacific Island nations could not undertake an effort like this. From the original design, to the complex water purification system, to the delivery of state-of-the art dialysis machines, to procurement of quality supplies and, most importantly, to hiring and training skilled nurses to deliver the care—this has been a tremendously difficult undertaking. Many neighboring island nations cannot offer dialysis for their patients. Instead, patients often leave their homes and families to seek dialysis care in Hawaii or the mainland. This has been a long-awaited grand opening, and CNMI should be proud to provide high-level dialysis care to those in need.

Opening this center is also an opportunity to look at healthcare priorities in the CNMI. "Public Health" represents preventive care and a lifestyle to maintain wellness. "Dialysis" represents last-resort treatment for individuals who have been severely affected by poorly controlled diabetes over many years. In many ways, "Public Health" and "Dialysis" are the "alpha" and "omega" of healthcare. Ironically, it's probably the only "Center of Public Health and Dialysis" in the world.

But it is a fitting irony for the CNMI, as we struggle to balance the competing priorities for preventive health and wellness in our community, and still manage the very heavy burden of chronic disease in the hospital. More than 70 percent of adult patients in the hospital are diabetic, and the healthcare costs to the local government cannot be overestimated.

The new dialysis center stands as a proud and necessary achievement for the CNMI. But the center also serves as a reminder to the CNMI community to double their efforts to prevent and reduce obesity, increase walking and other exercises, quit smoking, and take the diagnosis of diabetes more seriously. Battling against diabetes requires the whole community, including other agencies and lawmakers.

For part of the solution, other states and jurisdictions reduced obesity and diabetes through legislation. Examples include a "junk food tax," a tax on sweetened drinks, improved school lunches, enforced mandatory PE in school, increased cigarette taxes, and creation of bicycle lanes to encourage regular exercise. Additionally, the community needs more public education about proper portion size, reduced emphasis on expensive catered meals for rosaries, and new safe walkways in every village. These types of changes require both courage and ingenuity to improve healthy choices while preserving a wonderful and rich culture.

From the perspective of the doctors at CHC, the best day for the community will come when the new dialysis center is closed for lack of business. Until then, CHC will continue to perform quality dialysis for patients who need it, and continue to help the community to change to a healthier, more traditional lifestyle.

We've got to kick-start economic recovery

By PETER GOLDMARK
Newsday

Peter Goldmark, a former publisher of the International Herald Tribune*, headed the climate program at the Environmental Defense Fund. He wrote this for* Newsday.

What do we do now? We bailed out the banks. We couldn't sit back and let one of the critical pumps in our economy close down. Now those same banks are sitting on piles of cash and not investing in business expansion and job growth. But in fairness, businesses haven't been coming in, demanding a lot of loans for expansion.

And that's because business isn't feeling much demand out there. We see why every day: Family budgets are tighter. Some people have lost jobs; many more have chosen, or been forced, to limit use of their credit cards. People are spending less and saving more. That's good, but it doesn't help businesses expand.

A lot of corporations are reporting high profits, but since sales aren't growing, that means they've been hammering at the cost side of the equation. They're consolidating, automating, outsourcing and laying people off. So those corporations are sitting on a lot of cash, too.

That doesn't produce jobs or grow the economy. You'd think those profits at least would make their stock go up, and it did for the first half of this year. But then people who buy and sell stocks saw that these profits weren't associated with growth. The "real" economy—factories, the service sector—had excess capacity and wasn't expanding. And there were dark clouds on the horizon for Europe and its banks, which are guarantors to a lot of U.S. and global hedge and money market funds. So stocks started going down ... and down.

Neither consumer demand nor housing sales are going to power the economy forward as they once did. The agricultural sector will be generally strong because the world is entering a food squeeze and the United States can produce a lot of food. And the energy sector will continue to be strong all over the globe because energy is indispensable to a modern economy. Our problem there is that our biggest energy expenditures are for vehicle fuel, and most of that is imported. So where's the lever that can reverse this vicious cycle and get dollars flowing ... into activities that create jobs ... that will boost consumer demand ... so business can grow again and create more jobs? There's only one that can be launched at scale and kick-start the economy in a way that can be sustained for decades. And that's massive capital investment in our infrastructure: roads, rail, bridges, water supply, sewer systems, modern electricity grids, retrofitting our physical plant to be more energy efficient, and modernizing our ports, airports, and other facilities of commerce and transportation.

Our infrastructure needs to be modernized in any case for us to be competitive. The borrowing can be shared among governments at all three levels—federal, state and local—and if we get our governments into sound fiscal condition (by cutting deficits and making sure expenditures don't exceed revenues), then those investments can be made economically.

But there's only one way to do this all at once: Raise taxes. Wipe out the gimmicks, loopholes and subsidies for corporations and the wealthy, and then put in a modest, across-the-board increase to finance all this and work the deficit down. Otherwise we will sit at the bottom of the stagnating economic swamp we're in for a long, long time. These investments will create jobs, most of them in the private sector, and those jobs will last. These are long-term projects that will get money flowing to private companies, and these companies will hire people and invest in new equipment.

It kick-starts the economy, makes us more competitive globally and creates jobs. Along the way, we have to get our federal and state governments into sound fiscal condition—and that'll be hard. But does anyone see an alternative that will create jobs and help private companies grow again?

RESPONSIBILITY

From Page 10

their hands in the farm lands they plowed. These opportunities are still waiting for us.

As I have previously mentioned on numerous occasions, I see today many opportunities for us to better ourselves that I saw 28 years ago when I first came to Saipan. I am willing to sit and discuss them with anyone who is interested. Call me and let's talk. My email is tonypell@pticaom.com. No, I don't profess to have the answers, but together we can find them.

Let us work together to create a society filled with responsibility, trust, and faith to make a Good Society. I believe we can do it if we screw up our determination and courage. Come, believe with me. Let us do it together! Have a great week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

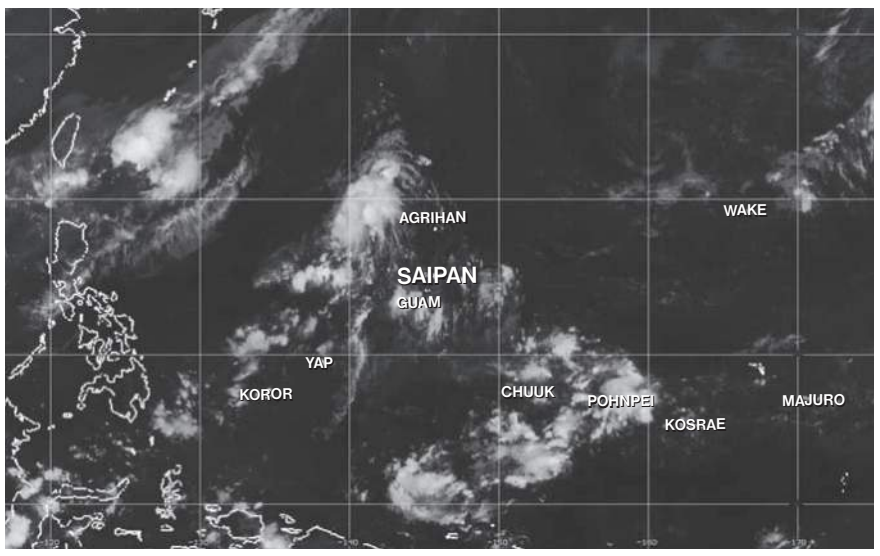
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼78
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼72
Kosrae	Showers	▲90	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼56
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼44
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲81	▼73
Honolulu	Sunny	▲85	▼73
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲63	▼47
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼75
Melbourne	Sunny	▲78	▼45
Miami	Showers	▲81	▼75
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼53
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼56
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼45
Pusan	Sunny	▲69	▼50
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼50
Salem	Sunny	▲68	▼47
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼61
Seoul	Sunny	▲61	▼41
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲67	▼59
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲69	▼59

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northeastward from near Koror at 7N135E to a developing low-level circulation centered northwest of Saipan at 17N142E then continues northward to beyond 25N at 145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with this feature are found over Koror and Yap just west of Guam and Saipan and the northern tip of the CNMI within 160 miles of a line from 7N133E to 9N141E to 22N143E. Another surface trough reaches northeastward from south of Chuuk at 2N152E to a weak circulation centered northeast of Weno Island at 9N155E then turns northwestward to end at another circulation centered east of Saipan at 15N152E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near the first circulation within 130 miles of a line from 7N157E to 11N153E and also the second circulation within 70 miles of 15N151E. Converging southeast winds south and east of the trough are producing similar weather over Pohnpei but just west of Kosrae within 105 miles of a line from 2N150E to 5N158E to 5N162E. A low-level circulation is centered northwest of Wake Island at 24N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found near its center between 22N and 24N from 161E to 166E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:29 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
11:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:59 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
9:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Tuesday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Wednesday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:38 PM	10:05 AM
Tuesday	10:30 PM	10:56 AM
Wednesday	11:25 PM	11:45 AM
Thursday		12:32 PM
Friday	12:20 AM	1:18 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05062	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05064	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C05070	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05064	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
5K384	7:20am	8:10am	2, 6
C05068	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C05068	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05074	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05076	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	3, 4, 7
C05078	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
5K382	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
C05072	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	4, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C05070/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
C05068/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C05076/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C05076/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C05072/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
5K168	8:15am	11:25pm	1, 5
C05076/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C05064	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C05062	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C05062	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C05069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
C05071	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C05071	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05073	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05075	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05077	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
5K383	6:30pm	7:20pm	2, 6
C05079	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	4, 7
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0190/5079	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0192/5071	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
5K169	1:00pm	8:05pm	1, 5
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0180/5071	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Palestinian statehood poses a dilemma for Iran

By NIMA TAMADDON
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

WASHINGTON—Iran's attempt to portray itself as the champion of the Palestinian cause has suffered a serious setback in recent months in the face of the seismic political shifts that swept across the Middle East.

Few could ignore the fact that the uprising sweeping the Arab world since the beginning of the year bears an uncomfortable resemblance to the democratic protests that followed the disputed Iranian presidential election in 2009, which Tehran brutally put down.

And now, Syria's President Bashar al-Assad, a key ally of Iran, is the target of worldwide condemnation as he uses force against protesters in his country.

Making life even more difficult for Tehran was the demand by Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas that the United Nations recognize Palestinian statehood along the borders that existed before the 1967 war.

Such a two-state solution flies in the face of Iran's longtime demand that Israel disappear.

So, when Tehran hosted the fifth International Intifada Conference earlier this month, many wondered how Iran would reconcile its position with the policy outlined by the Palestinians themselves.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei used his speech to the conference to insist that the two-state solution would damage the Palestinian cause, since such an agreement would imply the acceptance of Israel's existence.

Surprisingly, however, Khamenei toned down his anti-Israeli rhetoric, especially when compared with his remarks at previous conferences.

In 1991, for example, Khamenei slammed the international community's Madrid peace conference, calling it "treason" for which its participants would be punished. Ten years later, Khamenei suggested that Israel had inflated the number of deaths during the Holocaust. And in 2006, Tehran announced that it was stepping up aid to the Hamas-led Palestinian Authority.

The muted rhetoric at this year's conference indicates that Iran's leadership is struggling with how to proceed. How, for example, should Iran vote in the General Assembly should the issue of recognition for a Palestinian state arise? Can Iran really present itself as a champion of the Palestinian cause if it opposes a resolution a majority of Palestinians support? At best, Khamenei hoped to put off being forced to articulate a clear policy by proposing that the future of any Palestinian state should be decided by a referendum among all Palestinians. Such a suggestion ignores the fact that Abbas has already presented his proposal to the United Nations.

Nor could Khamenei bring himself to acknowledge Abbas' argument that U.N. recognition would make it possible to press for the prosecution of Israelis at the International Criminal Court in The Hague for alleged war crimes relating to their offensive in Gaza.

One would have thought that Khamenei would have championed such an idea, given that he offered a similar suggestion back in 2009.

Even with all its ongoing problems, Syria appears to have quietly shifted ground on the Palestinians. After years of steadfastly rejecting a two-state solution, the Syrian foreign ministry announced its recognition of a Palestinian state within the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

But Iran, the self-proclaimed protector of the Palestinians, is unable to make a similar move.

Nima Tamaddon is a writer who formerly worked as editor on the Iran Program for The Institute for War&Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.

USDOL accepts prevailing wage survey! Plus, parole in place update

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

Ever since the USCIS became responsible for immigration in the CNMI, employers of H-1B visa-qualified employees have been frustrated—and so have we—by the absence of any local wage scales to use in processing H-1B applications. USDOL has taken zero action to determine what the local wages might be for any H-1B job. Instead, in the absence of a local prevailing wage survey, USDOL has required employers to use the wage scales already established for Guam. While that is just fine for workers who will be stationed in Guam, Guam wages have long been much higher than those in the CNMI—double or even triple. USDOL's attitude has been, essentially, "not our department." Well, actually it is their department, but USDOL didn't bother to survey CNMI wages. Neither did the CNMI government, although noises were made indicating that a survey was in the works, sometime in the future.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce Prevailing Wage Survey

This summer, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce stepped up to the plate and engaged The Employers Council, a Guam non-profit with experience in wage surveys, to conduct a prevailing wage survey for the CNMI. The results came out a couple weeks ago, and we started using them in clients' H-1B applications.

While the survey results were still pending, and even after they came out, employer after employer asked us, "What if USDOL doesn't accept the survey? How do we know the survey will work? What will we do if they turn us down?" These are not unimportant questions because, in most cases, the employers are small businesses trying to retain critical employees at some significant cost: H-1B is the most expensive visa available, in terms of U.S. government filing fees.

Now we know, and the answer is a resounding "YES! USDOL ACCEPTS THE CHAMBER'S PREVAILING WAGE SURVEY!" This past Saturday, we received email notification from the Office of Foreign Labor Certification, which is part of USDOL's Employment & Training Administration, that a Labor Condition Application, LCA, for an electrical engineer had been certified.

The LCA is the required first step in applying for H-1B and a number of other employment-based visas, and it is accomplished by online submission of a Form ETA 9035E, Labor Condition Application for Nonimmigrant Workers. The LCA asks certification that the job category is available for H-1B employees, and that the wage offered be given a positive prevailing wage determination. As part of the application, we submitted the Chamber's prevailing wage survey PDF files labeled "Wage Salary Summary Report" and "Methods Procedures of the Survey," both available at the Saipan Chamber's website, at http://tinyurl.com/3ksrhbd. Turnaround time? We submitted on Oct. 11, got the LCA approval Oct. 15.

Today's column is not a step-by-step guide for H-1B applications, but here are some helpful hints for the LCA—all learned the hard way, by trial and error:

- Expect that the LCA will be denied the first time, and for the stupidest reasons: USDOL has not educated its reviewers or their guidelines, or checklists, or whatever references they use, that the CNMI exists out here in the western Pacific. The most common reason for rejection is that the initial reviewer fails to recognize the federal employer identification number (FEIN), and the denial email states that the LCA "contains an obvious inaccuracy." You then need to submit proof that the FEIN is indeed valid, following which you will get an email from an "LCA Business Verification Team," admitting that your FEIN is accepted, and allowing you to re-submit the ETA 9035E as a new application. As proof, we usually submit copies of recent 941-SS filings—federal Social Security taxes—showing the FEIN.
- We have also gotten denials based on failure to recognize 96950 as a valid ZIP code. Same process—we submit copies of the appropriate USPS website page, showing CNMI ZIPs.
- The ETA 9035E requires that you enter the Standard Occupational Classification, or SOC, number for the particular job and the wage rate. (You can find the SOC on the USDOL's website, along with other prevailing wage information, through the links at http://tinyurl.com/63lwtsa.) When we entered the wage rate showing the prevailing wage survey's lowest and wages for a particular job classification, the application was denied. So instead we entered the actual wage offered as the lowest wage, plus the highest wage shown on the survey to show the wage range, and then entered the wage offered in the space for the prevailing wage. Bingo—approved.
- The ETA 9035E also requires that you identify the prevailing wage source if—as will be the case for CNMI employers—you check "other" rather than one of the standard government sources. The formal name is, "Saipan Chamber of Commerce—2011 Survey of Wages & Salaries in the CNMI."

Of course, getting the LCA approved is just the first step. The certified ETA Form 9035E must be printed and signed before it can be used as part of the H-1B application, but it clears the way to file the Form I-129 (Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker). The LCA is also used for other nonimmigrant visa applications, and for some immigrant applications (for which the employer files Form I-140, which is a petition for an immigrant worker).

This is not just big news for CNMI employers and employees, it's HUGE. Major kudos to the Saipan Chamber and its executive director, Richard A. Pierce, and to Andy Andrus of The Employers Council. The prevailing wage survey was done very quickly, and for a very reasonable price. Prevailing wage surveys are only considered valid for about two years. To those employers among our readers who didn't participate: don't miss your chance the next time around.

Update on parole in place

Parole in place appears to be a moving target. In our last column, dated Sept. 26, 2011, we indicated that parole in place was likely to be available for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens who were unable—for financial or other reasons—to file for a green card prior to Nov. 28. That now seems to be less likely. On the other hand, we were worried that nonimmigrants with pending employment-based petitions, such as H-1B, E-1, E-2, L-I and R-1, would be required to exit the CNMI if their applications were not adjudicated by the deadline. That is definitely not so, based on a USCIS Update issued Oct. 5, 2011. The new policy allows persons with pending 1-129 applications to apply for parole in place and work authorization so that they can remain and work in the Commonwealth without interruption while their petitions are adjudicated.

Because parole in place is such an uncertain process, we have decided to gather what we know—and what we don't know—on how it seems to be applied in the table below. Remember, no matter what we say, or think, parole in place is always discretionary and is decided on a case-by-case basis. But as Bruce always says, it's like dancing: it never hurts to ask.

CATEGORY	LIKELIHOOD OF PAROLE IN PLACE
CNMI Permanent Residents & their IRs	Yes
FAS IRs	Yes
Surviving spouses of both (above)	Yes
Persons with nonimmigrant employment based I-129 petitions pending (H1B, E-1, E-2, L-1, & R)	Yes
Persons with nonimmigrant and immigrant employment based visa applications pending through consular processing—no I-129 petitions (E-1, E-2, L-1, EB-1C)	Uncertain
240P CNMI permit holders: * Witnesses * Victims * Refugees	 Don't know Don't know Yes, but only if they have received a Grant of protection Against Refoulement. If no grant, the outcome is uncertain.
Conditional Umbrella Permit Holders (AGs list published in newspaper)	No, unless qualified for some other reason
Abandoned alien spouses	No. There is no provision for abandoned spouses under the INA
IRs of USCs (240D CNMI permit holders) * With filed or approved I-130 * Without filed I-130	 Possibly Probably not
IRs of LPRs (green card holders) with or without filed/approved I-130s	No (the wait for an available visa number can be decades in this category)
Common law spouses (even with 240E Umbrella permits)	No (common law "spouses" are not considered legally married in either CNMI or federal law)
Parents of minor USC children	No (unless Kilili's HR 1466 passes)
Caregivers for elderly and disabled who do not have a business license and who cannot afford manpower agency fee	Possibly (this issue is reported to be under consideration by USCIS
Aliens with undocumented lawful status pursuant to CNMI law.	No

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune *at editor@saipantribune.com.*

CNMI faithful takes part in global public square rosary rally

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

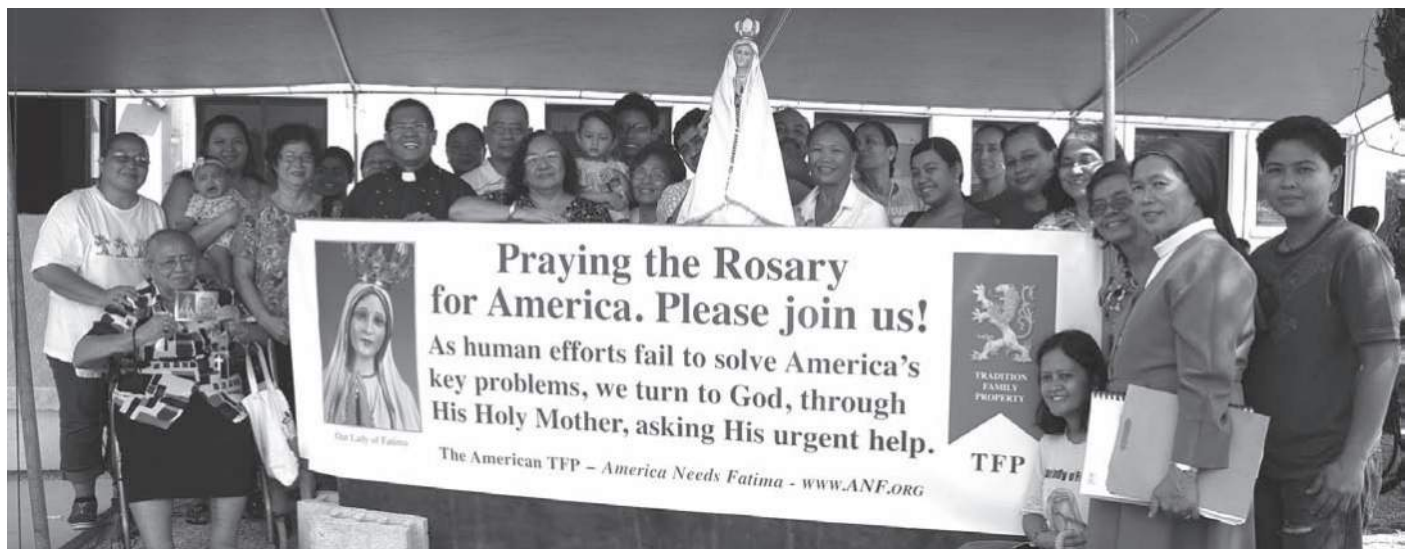
Scores of Catholic devotees, young and old, gathered at Mount Carmel Cathedral at noon Saturday to pray the rosary and sing religious songs as part of a nationwide rally of over 7,000 gatherings for the 2011 Public Square Rosary Crusade.

The annual international Public Square Rosary Crusade is spearheaded by America Needs Fatima, a campaign of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property, which aims to win the heart and soul of America for Mary by spreading Our Lady of Fatima's message and promoting devotion to Her Immaculate Heart.

Saturday's rosary rally—organized by Sr. Ma. Estela Altea, SJBP, Escolastical Cabrera, and Dr. Celia B. Lamkin—saw the participation of diocese parishioners, including students under the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine weekly classes.

Altea said the public square rosary commemorates the 94th anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun or when Our Lady of Fatima performed a miracle witnessed by 70,000 people on Oct. 13, 1917.

"We are continuing to propagate this purposely for the conversion of sinners, especially for America because of so many things, many crimes happening," she said.


Praying the Rosary
for America. Please join us!
As human efforts fail to solve America's key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, asking His urgent help.
The American TFP – America Needs Fatima - www.ANF.org
TFP
TRADITION FAMILY PROPERTY

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Organizers and volunteers for the 2011 Public Square Rosary Crusade on Saipan pose for a group photo after the event held at the Mount Carmel Cathedral grounds Saturday noon.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Catholic devotees wait for the start of the Public Square Rosary Crusade outside the Mount Carmel Cathedral last Saturday.

The 81-year-old Cabrera said that the community especially needs to pray for the younger generation, most of whom do not find time to pray even for only 30 minutes but are able to watch television and surf the Internet.

Cabrera said she is pleased that many students took part in the public square rosary. "It's very good. I know the Blessed Mother is also happy."

Lamkin, meanwhile noted the importance of spreading Our Lady of Fatima's message to have peace not only in the local community but in the whole world.

"As we all know, there's a lot of wars going on and for the reparation of our sins," Lamkin told *Saipan Tribune*. "Also, we would like to pray for our Commonwealth, our leaders, and our economy. So we're hoping for the best for everyone."

Kristo Rai Parish in Garapan also held its own public rosary rally across the church.

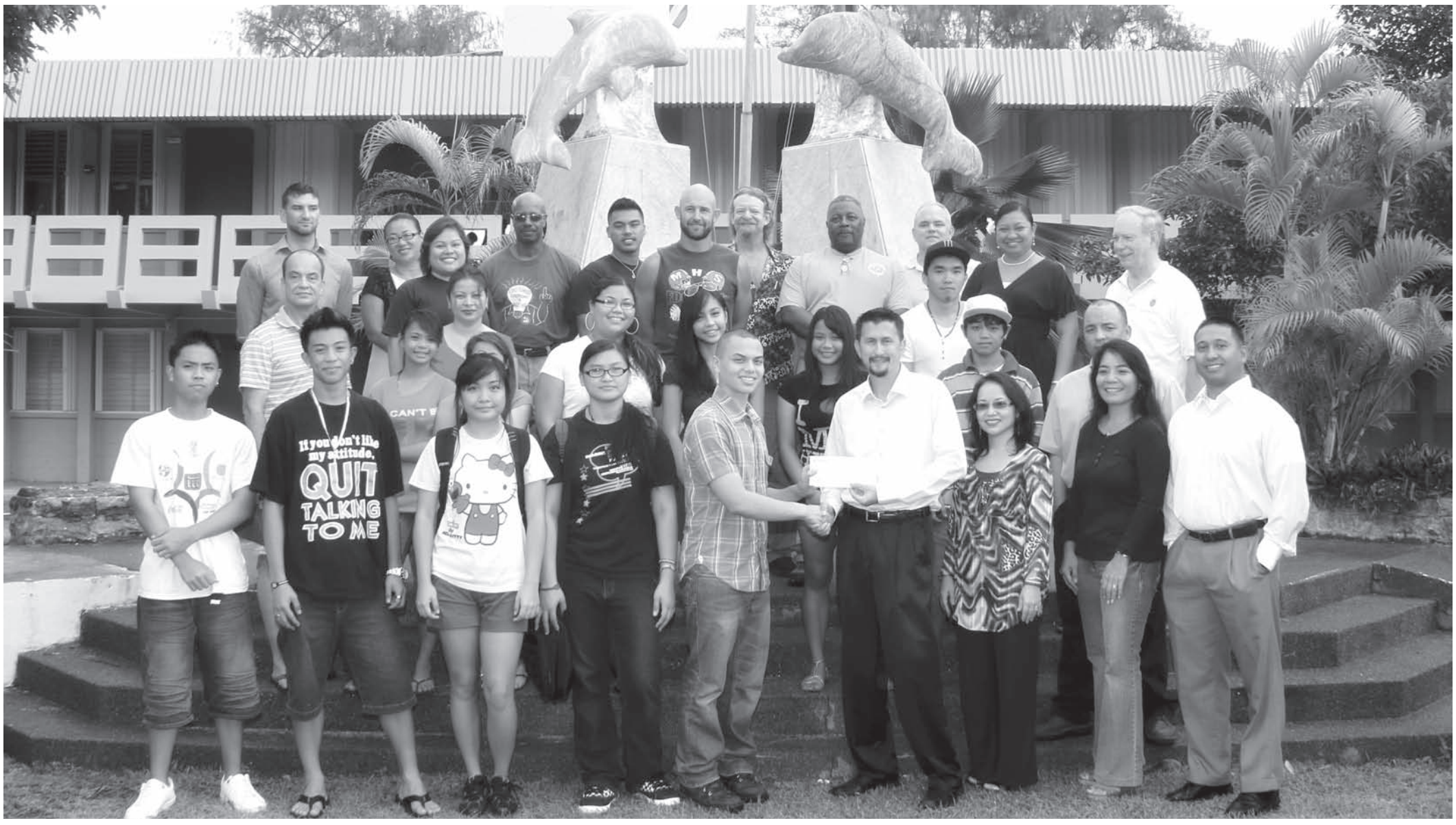
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy, happy birthday greetings go out to Magdalena "Maggie" M. Cabrera, who celebrates her birthday today, Oct. 17, 2011! May the good Lord continue to bless you all the days of your life! Have a great and wonderful day! Much love coming out from all your grandchildren, your family and friends, most especially your Class of 1957 crew!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy 27th birthday to Duane Richards, who celebrated his birthday on Oct. 16, 2011. May God bless you and may you have many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from Jenna, Shane, Alyvia, and the family.



CLASS OF '89 DONATES

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas High School Class of '89 donates a check for $2,900 to Marianas High School. The MHS Class of 89 sponsored some fundraising events that will go toward the purchase of a marquee sign for their alma mater. Representing the 89ers and presenting the check to MHS Student Council president Vinni Orsini are Ed Propst, Daisy Propst, Kimo Rosario, Glenna Reyes, and Vince Torres.

Business

Thousands of protesters fill NYC's Times Square

NEW YORK (AP)—Thousands of demonstrators protesting corporate greed filled Times Square on Saturday night, mixing with gawkers, Broadway showgoers, tourists and police to create a chaotic scene in the midst of Manhattan.

"Banks got bailed out, we got sold out!" protesters chanted from within police barricades. Police, some in riot gear and mounted on horses, tried to push them out of the square and onto the sidewalks in an attempt to funnel the crowds away.

Sandy Peterson of Salt Lake City, who was in Times Square after seeing "The Book of Mormon" musical on Broadway, got caught up in the disorder.

"We're getting out of here before this gets ugly," she said.

Sandra Fox, 69, of Baton Rouge, La., stood, confused, on 46th Street with a ticket for "Anything Goes" in her hand as riot police pushed a knot of about 200 shouting protesters toward her.

"I think it's horrible what they're doing," she said of the protesters. "These people need to go get jobs."

The Occupy Wall Street demonstrators had marched north through Manhattan from Washington Square Park earlier in the afternoon. Once in Times Square, they held a rally for several hours before dispersing. Over the course of the day, more than 70 people were arrested.

Police spokesman Paul Browne said 42 people were arrested in Times Square on Saturday night after being warned repeatedly to disperse, and three others were arrested while trying to take down police barriers.

Two police officers were injured during the protest and had to be hospitalized. One suffered a head injury, the other a foot injury, Browne said.

AP

Demonstrators affiliated with the Occupy Wall Street rally in New York's Times Square, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011.

Five people wearing masks were arrested earlier in the day. It wasn't immediately clear what charges, if any, they may face.

Two dozen people were arrested on charges of criminal trespass Saturday morning when demonstrators entered a Citibank bank branch near Washington Square Park and refused to leave, police said. One protester also was arrested on a charge of resisting arrest.

Citibank said in a statement that police asked the branch to close until the protesters could be taken away. "One person asked to close an account and was accommodated," Citibank said. Earlier in the day, demonstrators paraded to a Chase bank branch, banging drums, blowing horns and carrying signs decrying corporate greed. Marchers throughout the country emulated them in protests that ranged from about 50 people in Jackson, Miss., to about 2,000 in the larger city of Pittsburgh.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mexico's newest export to US may be water

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Mexico ships televisions, cars, sugar and medical equipment to the United States. Soon, it may be sending water north. Western states are looking south of the border for water to fill drinking glasses, flush toilets and sprinkle lawns, as four major U.S. water districts help plan one of two huge desalination plant proposals in Playas de Rosarito, about 15 miles south of San Diego. Combined, they would produce 150 million gallons a day, enough to supply more than 300,000 homes on both sides of the border. The plants are one strategy by both countries to wean themselves from the drought-prone Colorado River, which flows 1,450 miles from the Rocky Mountains to the Sea of Cortez.

Retail sales rose strongly in September on autos

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. consumers stepped up their spending on retail goods in September, a hopeful sign for the sluggish economy. They spent more on autos, clothing and furniture last month to boost retail sales 1.1 percent, the Commerce Department said Friday. It was the largest gain in seven months. Auto sales rose 3.6 percent to drive the overall increase. Still, excluding that category, sales gained a solid 0.6 percent. The government also revised the August figures to show a 0.3 percent increase, up from its initial report of no gain.

New iPhone launch turns into remembrance for Jobs

NEW YORK (AP)—It wasn't just the latest iPhone that drew people to Apple stores Friday. Many consumers waited in lines for hours—sometimes enduring chilly temperatures and overnight thunderstorms—to remember Steve Jobs, Apple's visionary who died last week. The company's first iPhone release since Jobs' death turned into another tribute. Some customers even joked that the new model 4S stood "for Steve." The new phone, which went on sale Friday in seven countries, is faster than the previous model and comes with better software and an improved camera.

Nation

Campaign reports highlight disparity among GOP bets

WASHINGTON (AP)—With just over a year left in the race for the White House, campaign finance reports released Saturday offered the first detailed look at the haves and the have-nots among the Republican presidential candidates.

Two of the top Republican contenders, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Texas Gov. Rick Perry, brought in more than $14 million and $17 million respectively. Meanwhile, candidates like former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and businessman Herman Cain raised significantly less.

The financial reports show how flush some GOP candidates are with cash—and how nearly broke others are—heading into the final weeks before contests in key primary states. Reports on two of the biggest money-raisers so far—Romney and President Barack Obama—reveal millions in contributions from party devotees and small donors alike.

Reports filed late Friday offered a mixed financial picture of the field, with Obama raising more than $70 million between his campaign and the Democratic Party. At the same time, GOP candidates raised a combined $52.6 million, more than the $42 million Obama brought in through his campaign alone.

Other candidates are saddled with debt, such as former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman and Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann.

The reports didn't capture the tens of millions raised by new, outside groups known as super political action committees, which can collect unlimited amounts of money to influence elections. Leading contenders Perry and Romney have at least one super PAC each working to boost their candidacies, and another group is backing Obama's re-election bid.

Texas Rep. Ron Paul, a favorite among libertarians, collected $8.2 million, spent $7.5 million during the period and has no debt. Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum reported raising more than $700,000 during the quarter, spent nearly $750,000 and owes about $70,000.

But some in the GOP field owe much more, particularly as their campaigns struggle to compete with big money that fuels increasingly expensive elections.

Gingrich owes the most among all candidates who have filed so far, with more than $1.1 million in debts for expenses like office supplies, direct mail and outside experts—including $5,250 for a "Hispanic outreach consultant" and $724 for a "social media consultation." His campaign raised about $793,000 this period, about a third of which came from small donors.

Bachmann, a leading tea party figure, reported nearly $550,000 in debt after raising $3.9 million. Her expenses included more than $130,000 spent on chartered flights with Moby Dick Airways of Virginia. She also owes former campaign chair Ed Rollins about $30,000.

Active duty gays say coming out has been nonevent

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Chief Warrant Officer Charlie Morgan kept it simple and sweet. She was eight months into a nine-month assignment in Kuwait, and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta had just informed Congress that the U.S. armed forces were ready to integrate openly gay troops.

Morgan decided the time was right to come out to her commander. The photograph of her wife and 4-year-old daughter she kept hidden on her desk helped her do it.

"I said, 'Sir, I would like to introduce you to someone. This is my family,'" Morgan recalled of her July conversation with her boss, an Army colonel leading a 2,400-solider brigade. "He said, 'Charlie, you have a beautiful family. You know, "don't ask, don't tell" prevented me from getting to know you.'"

Nearly four weeks after the U.S. lifted its ban on open service by gay men, lesbians and bisexuals, similar stories of secret-shedding, relief and acceptance were swapped Saturday at the first-ever national convention of gay military personnel on active duty. Each of the 200 or so sailors, soldiers, Marines and airmen attending the conference put on by the formerly clandestine group known as OutServe had, to varying degrees, only recently revealed their sexual orientations at work. None had gotten a reaction worse than a shrug.

"Out of the 4,500 members we have, we haven't had any person come to us about one single problem, which is huge, because right before repeal of 'don't ask, don't tell,' we had tons of problems," like investigations and other issues relayed to the Pentagon, said Air Force 1st Lt. Josh Seefried, the group's co-founder. "But right now, after Sept. 20, there is nothing to relay because everything has been 100 percent positive."

ACROSS THE NATION

Mo. National Guard to help search for missing baby

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon is sending members of the National Guard to Kansas City to help search for a missing baby. Nixon said Saturday that 25 members of a guard police company will help look for Lisa Irwin, who was 10 months old when she was reported missing Oct. 4. Her parents say she disappeared from her crib sometime overnight. Also Saturday, police searched an abandoned home after receiving a call about diapers and a backpack inside. But investigators say the items appear to have been in the house far longer than two weeks and likely wouldn't offer any evidence.

1 dead in shooting at Calif. Hells Angels funeral

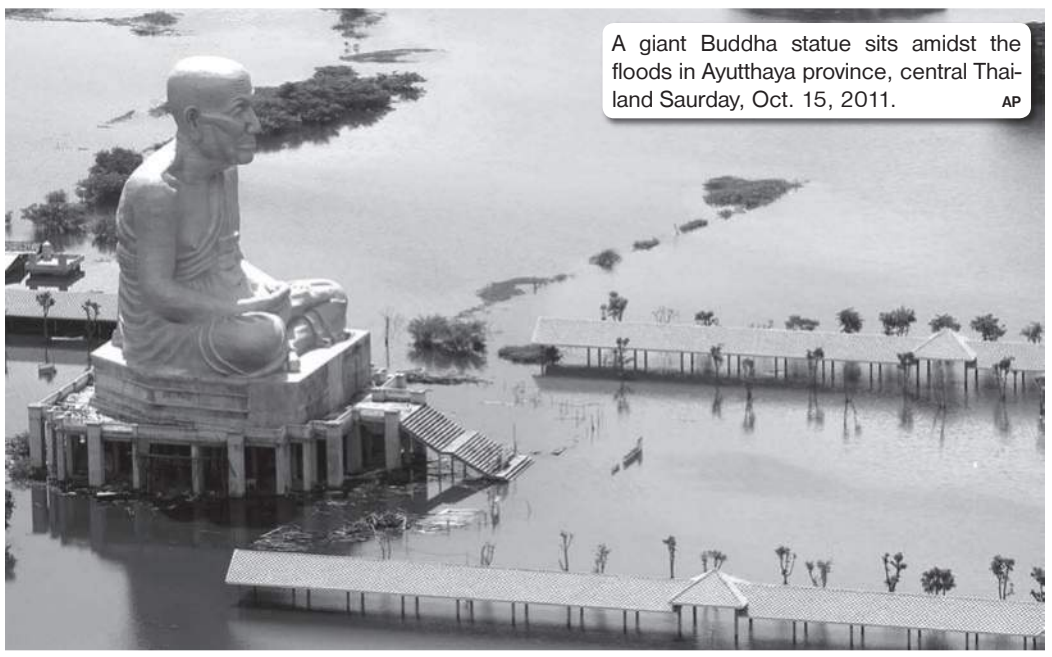
SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)—A Hells Angeles member was fatally shot during a funeral in San Jose for another member who was killed in a Nevada casino shooting, police said Saturday. The man was gunned down at Oak Hill Cemetery around 1 p.m. during the funeral for Jeffrey "Jethro" Pettigrew, president of the Hells Angels' San Jose chapter who was fatally shot last month, police spokesman Jose Garcia. The shooting victim died later Saturday at a hospital, Garcia said. No one else was injured. Police were interviewing witnesses, but had no early leads.

3 dead, 4 hurt in reservoir collision east of LA

SAN DIMAS, Calif. (AP)—Authorities say three women riding on a personal watercraft were killed when they crashed into a motorboat at a Southern California reservoir. Los Angeles County fire Inspector Matt Levesque said the Saturday collision at Puddingstone Lake also left three men from the boat with serious injuries and a woman with minor injuries. They are all expected to survive. Authorities say the women, ages 25, 35, and 60, were all riding on the same Sea-Doo watercraft when they crashed. Paramedics declared all three dead at the scene.

Asia

Flood barriers around Thailand capital hold up for the moment



A giant Buddha statue sits amidst the floods in Ayutthaya province, central Thailand Saurday, Oct. 15, 2011. AP

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—An elaborate system of defenses protecting Thailand's capital from high waters sweeping down from the north was holding up Sunday, protecting Bangkok from the worst floods to hit this Southeast Asian nation in decades.

Bangkok Gov. Sukhumbhand Paribatra said late Saturday he was worried about barriers on the northwest side of the city, saying they were not as strong as in other parts of Bangkok and water could flood around them and into the city from the west.

An Associated Press team that traveled to that area Sunday found no serious flooding in the district bordering on neighboring Nonthaburi and Nokhon Pathom provinces. Canals were not overflowing and, although some residents were still reinforcing sandbag walls, few were worried.

"People have faith these walls will work," said Pichitchai, a saffron-robed monk peaking over sandbags stacked along the edge of a canal that were protecting a Buddhist temple. The 36-year-old only has one name.

Over the last few days, government officials have voiced increasing confidence the capital would survive without major damage. On Sunday, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra echoed those sentiments again, saying "I believe Bangkok will be safe."

While Bangkok is mostly dry, some towns in provinces just to the north have been submerged in water, forcing thousand of people to flee.

Nationwide, 297 people have been killed since relentless monsoon rains began inundating the country in late July. Flood waters since then have swamped two-thirds of the country, drowning agricultural land, swamping hundreds of factories and swallowing low-lying villages along the way.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Group says Tibetan monk sets himself on fire

BEIJING (AP)—A Tibet activist group says a former Buddhist monk has set himself on fire to protest Chinese rule in the region. Free Tibet said the 19-year-old man set himself ablaze Saturday in the town of Aba in western China that has been the site of a series of such protests. It said police put out the fire and the man's condition was unknown. The group said the man was the eighth Tibetan protester to set himself on fire this year. It said he shouted "Tibet needs freedom!" and called for the return of the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

Militants assault US base in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Militants tried to blast their way into an American base in eastern Afghanistan on Saturday, striking before dawn with rocket-propelled grenades and a car bomb. All four attackers were killed as well as two truck drivers parked nearby, said provincial Police Chief Gen. Mohammad Qasim Jangalbagh. Two Afghan security guards were wounded. The militants failed to breach the gate of the base in Panjshir province's Rakha district, though they did hit a security tower with a rocket-propelled grenade. Three of the men attacked on foot, shooting, while a fourth detonated the explosives-laden vehicle outside the gate, Jangalbagh said.

US missiles kill 6 in northwestern Pakistan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan (AP)—U.S. missiles killed six suspected militants in northwestern Pakistan near the Afghan border Saturday, Pakistani intelligence officials said. Drone-fired missiles slammed into a compound near the border town of Angore Adda in the South Waziristan tribal region. The strike targeted fighters of Maulvi Nazir, a Pakistani militant commander who is accused of working with the Taliban and al-Qaida to direct cross-border attacks, the officials said. Saturday's strike was the latest in a string of missile attacks targeting the militant-infested border region.

Chinese pilot dies as jet nose-dives at air show

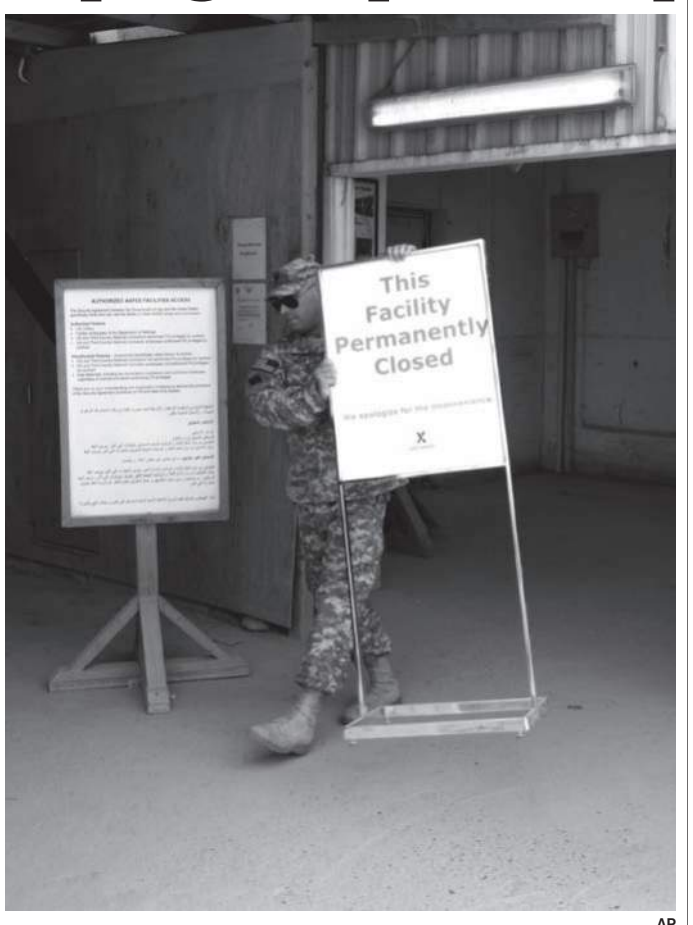
BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities said Saturday that a pilot died after an air force jet nose-dived and crashed at an air show. Footage aired by China Central Television showed the jet sputtering and then plunging into a field Friday outside the northern city of Xi'an as one of the pilots ejected from the cockpit and landed beneath an open parachute. Only one parachute was seen opening, and the plane, a two-seater JH-7 "Flying Leopard" fighter-bomber, burst into flames upon crashing. The other pilot's seat appeared not to have ejected.

Bhutan king and queen share first public kiss

THIMPHU, Bhutan (AP)—Tens of thousands of Bhutanese have crammed into a stadium in the capital for a reception celebrating the wedding of their beloved king to their new queen. King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck married Jetsun Pema in a Buddhist ceremony Thursday in the Himalayan mountain kingdom. Their wedding was celebrated with a huge reception Saturday where the couple shared their first public kiss. Traditional dancers performed for them. Children put on a taekwondo demonstration and the prime minister and lawmakers danced with the king on the sports field. Then thousands of people poured onto the field and formed concentric circles for a traditional final dance.

World

US drops keeping troops in Iraq



AP

A U.S. Army soldier places a sign outside a base exchange after its closure at Camp Victory Base Complex that is set to close in Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011.

BAGHDAD (AP)—The U.S. is abandoning plans to keep U.S. troops in Iraq past a year-end withdrawal deadline, The Associated Press has learned. The decision to pull out fully by January will effectively end more than eight years of U.S. involvement in the Iraq war, despite ongoing concerns about its security forces and the potential for instability.

The decision ends months of hand-wringing by U.S. officials over whether to stick to a Dec. 31 withdrawal deadline that was set in 2008 or negotiate a new security agreement to ensure that gains made and more than 4,400 American military lives lost since March 2003 do not go to waste.

In recent months, Washington has been discussing with Iraqi leaders the possibility of several thousand American troops remaining to continue training Iraqi security forces. A Pentagon spokesman said Saturday that no final decision has been reached about the U.S. training relationship with the Iraqi government.

But a senior Obama administration official in Washington confirmed Saturday that all American troops will leave Iraq except for about 160 active-duty soldiers attached to the U.S. Embassy.

A senior U.S. military official confirmed the departure and said the withdrawal could allow future but limited U.S. military training missions in Iraq if requested.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Throughout the discussions, Iraqi leaders have adamantly refused to give U.S. troops immunity from prosecution in Iraqi courts, and the Americans have refused to stay without it. Iraq's leadership has been split on whether it wanted American forces to stay. Some argued the further training and U.S. help was vital, particularly to protect Iraq's airspace and gather security intelligence. But others have deeply opposed any American troop presence, including Shiite militiamen who have threatened attacks on any American forces who remain.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has told U.S. military officials that he does not have the votes in parliament to provide immunity to the American trainers, the U.S. military official said.

A western diplomatic official in Iraq said al-Maliki told international diplomats he will not bring the immunity issue to parliament because lawmakers will not approve it.

A White House spokesman, Tommy Vietor, said discussions with Iraq about the security relationship between the two countries next year were ongoing.

Pentagon press secretary George Little said the U.S. remains "committed to keeping our agreement with the Iraqi government to remove all of our troops by the end of this year."

"At the same time we're building a comprehensive partnership with Iraq under the Strategic Framework Agreement including a robust security relationship, and discussions with the Iraqis about the nature of that relationship are ongoing," Little said.

WORLD BRIEFS

US strike kills 9 al-Qaida militants in Yemen

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—The United States has raised the tempo in its war against al-Qaida in Yemen, killing nine of the terror group's militants in the second, high-profile airstrike in as many weeks. The dead in the late Friday night strike included the son of Anwar al-Awlaki, the prominent American-Yemeni militant killed in a Sept. 30 strike. The successes come even as Yemen falls deeper into turmoil, with President Ali Abdullah Saleh clinging to power in the face of months of massive protests. Saturday saw the worst bloodshed in weeks in the capital, Sanaa: At least 18 people were killed when Saleh's troops fired on protesters and clashed with rivals.

Rioters hijack Rome protests, police fire tear gas

ROME (AP)—Italian riot police fired tear gas and water cannons in Rome on Saturday as violent protesters hijacked a peaceful demonstration against corporate greed, smashing bank windows, torching cars and hurling bottles. Heavy smoke billowed in downtown Rome as a small group broke away and wreaked havoc in streets close to the Colosseum and elsewhere in the city. Clad in black with their faces covered, protesters threw rocks, bottles and incendiary devices at banks and Rome police in riot gear. With clubs and hammers, they destroyed bank ATMs, set trash bins on fire and assaulted at least two news crews from Sky Italia.

Libyan forces search Tripoli for Gadhafi loyalists

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Libyan fighters fanned out in Tripoli neighborhoods Saturday to search for armed supporters of fugitive leader Moammar Gadhafi a day after a major gunbattle rocked the capital for the first time in two months. Dozens of men combed apartment buildings for suspects and weapons in the Abu Salim neighborhood, which is home to the prison of the same name that became notorious for the abuse and killing of Gadhafi opponents. A day earlier, a gunbattle broke out in the area when a group tried to raise the green flag that symbolizes the ousted regime.

Focus

Can 'Occupy Wall St.' protests last without leaders?

NEW YORK (AP)—They were out to change the world, overthrow the establishment and liberate the poor. But first somebody would have to do something about those bongo drums.

At the Occupy Wall Street protest camp in Manhattan, protesters agonized over what to do about drum players who had turned part of the site into an impromptu dance floor. The neighbors were complaining about the racket. The protesters had tried to put a time limit on the noise, but the drummers were refusing to obey.

"It's an issue, definitely," sighed protester Kanene Holder, 31, on Friday night. "We'll have to work it out."

Reining in a few pesky percussionists would seem to be an easy task for a movement seemingly on the verge of becoming a political force. But one month after it burst onto the scene and inspired similar protests across the country, the Occupy Wall Street protest remains stubbornly decentralized, complicating everything from enforcing camp rules to writing a national platform.

On Saturday the protesters planned to march on bank offices and into Times Square. But while their message against corporate greed has struck a nerve with many Americans, the lack of leaders in Manhattan and at other protest camps has baffled many.

In Minneapolis, Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek has been meeting every morning with a delegation of protesters—"at least, the ones who come forward and say they are the organizers," Stanek said. "It's a little difficult because it seems like each day it's been a completely different group of folks."

Protesters say the decentralization is deliberate and note that other movements, like the 1960s civil rights effort, began in a similarly disorganized way. It also calls to mind the Arab Spring, which had influential protesters but no clear leaders, at least initially.

And some academics who have studied dissent movements say that while being "leaderless" has some drawbacks, it could also have great advantages. Chief among them: It has allowed people with very different backgrounds—like union workers and anarchists—to rally behind the same broad message against corporate greed, without actually agreeing much on where the country should go from here.

"They have achieved popular support so much quicker than anti-war movement, or civil rights movement," said Todd Gitlin, an expert on political dissent at Columbia University. From its earliest days, the people at the heart of Occupy Wall Street have worked hard to make it a movement without leaders.

The original call for the demonstration came from the editors of the Canadian anti-consumerist magazine Adbusters in mid-July. But since then, no one on the publication's staff has been actively involved in organizing or leading the protests.

The two men who came up with the idea, 69-year-old Adbusters co-founder Kalle Lasn and 29-year-old editor Micah White, have yet to go to New York to see the demonstration.

AP

Occupy Wall Street protesters march into Washington Square Park the day after successfully resisting a potential eviction from their camp in Zuccotti Park, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, in New York.

The large group of activists who began meeting to plan the occupation in midsummer came from a variety of groups and backgrounds, and resolved from the start that they wouldn't elect leaders, appoint a central planning council, or even name lead negotiators to deal with New York's police or City Hall.

"A lot of people can't handle that—it goes to their head," said Joey Pearson, 29, a laid-off auto worker from Cincinnati.

Instead, decisions at the camp in lower Manhattan's Zuccotti Park are made at a General Assembly of protesters that sometimes numbers in the thousands, while the nitty-gritty work of organizing the encampment is carried out by a large number of autonomous work teams that largely function without central oversight.

New York police have prohibited protesters from using a public address system because they do not have a permit for their demonstration. So the protesters have adopted a system of hand signals—fingers up for agreement, down for disagreement—and a "human microphone" in which the crowd repeats each word so that everyone can hear.

On Friday night the General Assembly meeting lurched along through this call-and-response system.

"The GA ..." shouted a member of the Facilitation Committee.

"THE GA!" bellowed the crowd.

"... is now ..."

"IS NOW!"

"... in session."

"IN SESSION!"

A member of the Community Relations Committee outlined the drum problem, summarizing the neighbors' concerns a few words at a time.

The General Assembly had already decided during Thursday night's meeting to limit drum playing, but to no avail.

On Friday, the body failed to reach a consensus. But a smaller group of drummers and mediators later agreed to limit the music to noon to 2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., said Andrew Smith, 26, of Portland, Ore., who sat in on the negotiations.

The slow pace of decisions has also led to other problems, like keeping the site clean.

Bobby Cooper, who is on the sanitation working group, said volunteers had been planning a mass cleaning of the park for about a week but no decision had been made on their proposals because of drawn-out discussions.

Finally, on Thursday, with the threat of the park's owner evicting protesters to do its own cleaning, the sanitation group got some attention—and some plastic bins to distribute to the occupiers.

"I would have wanted these bins a week ago," said Cooper, 30, of Brooklyn.

In other areas, though, the independent nature of the work teams has allowed them to act efficiently and quickly. From its first days, the protesters have had an aggressive media outreach program. The finance committee worked out an agreement with a nonprofit group in Washington, D.C., that has begun allowing the movement to accept credit card donations online.

To date, some of the biggest events associated with the demonstration have been put in motion by the work teams, rather than the assembly. For example, the group's march several weeks ago to the Brooklyn Bridge—a demonstration that ended in hundreds of arrests and raised the movement's profile—was planned by the direct action working group, said Brooklyn schoolteacher Matt Presto, one of a few dozen "facilitators" who specialize in moderating general assembly meetings, and other large discussion groups.

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Associates degree with a minimum of 2 years progressively responsible work experience. Skills required include professional customer service Skills and good driving skills. Must be able to routinely lift and move bundles of newspapers up to 50 lbs.

Accounting and Circulations Manager
College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management and newspaper circulation experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management and newspaper circulation activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage a work team and independent contractors. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Graphic Designer (3)
Associate's degree in Graphic Design or other related field. Minimum of 3 years work experience doing computer graphics and newspaper layout. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Must be familiar with offset printing process, computer peripherals, and Mac operating system. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays, depending on demand.

Advertising Sales Agent
Associates degree in Business Administration or any related course. Minimum of 3 years solid experience in advertising and sales is required. Must have the ability to compose clear business correspondence and prepare and meet monthly sales targets. A background in a printing or newspaper business is an advantage. Proficient in MS Word, Excel and Power Point and must work flexible hours.

Circulations Officer
Associates degree in Business Administration, Accounting or any related course. Minimum of 2 years work related experience in a newspaper or magazine publication. Good oral and written communication skills and proficient in MS Word, Excel & Power Point. Must be self-motivated with strong organizational skills to help manage newspaper circulation assignments. Must have a dependable transportation and available to work early morning and evening hours.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd@saipantribune.com not later than October 21, 2011

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in property management and building maintenance. Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must be able to prepare management and sales reports and is proficient in various MS office software operations. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

General Maintenance Worker (14)
High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities. Must be able to work flexible hours. Can work outdoors.

Administrative Assistant (4)
Associate's Degree. Must be proficient in typing and good at written and oral communication. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic
Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

Electrician
High school diploma or GED certificate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, maintaining, and/or repairing electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Must have knowledge of electrical codes, intercom and electrical control systems. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Housekeeper (8)
High school diploma or GED Certificate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd_l&t@tanholdings.com not later than October 21, 2011.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Health & Fitness

Vitamin E pills linked with prostate cancer risk

CHICAGO (AP)—There is more evidence that taking vitamin E pills can be risky. A study that followed up on men who took high doses of the vitamin for about five years found they had a slightly increased risk of prostate cancer—even after they quit taking the pills.

Doctors say it's another sign that people should be careful about using vitamins and other supplements.

"People tend to think of vitamins as innocuous substances, almost like chicken soup—take a little and it can't hurt," said lead author Dr. Eric Klein of the Cleveland Clinic. The study shows that is not true.

"If you have normal levels, the vitamin is probably of no benefit, and if you take too much, you can be harmed," Klein said.

Men randomly assigned to take a 400-unit capsule of vitamin E every day for about five years were 17 percent more likely to get prostate cancer than those given dummy pills. That dose, commonly found in over-the-counter supplements, is almost 20 times higher than the recommended adult amount, which is about 23 units daily.

The results mean for every 1,000 men who took vitamin E, there were 11 additional cases of prostate cancer, compared with men taking dummy pills.

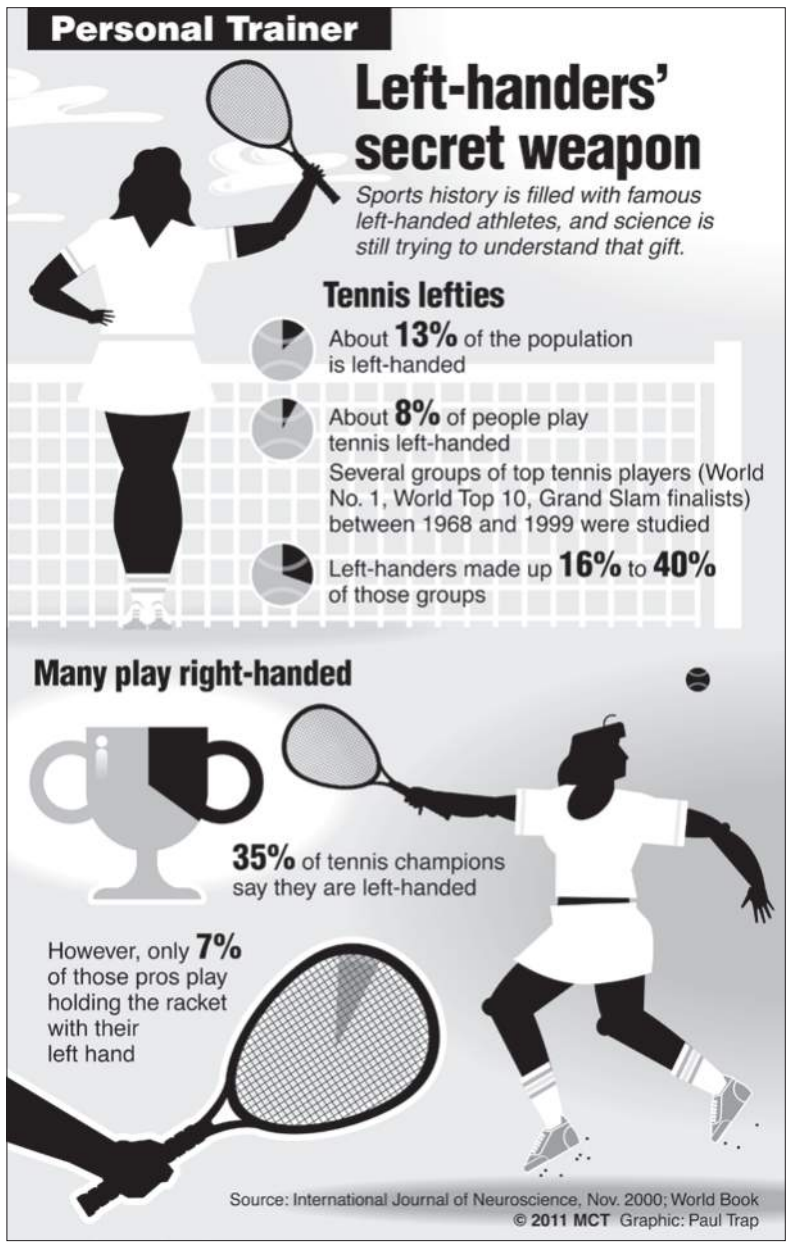
The study was actually launched to try to confirm less rigorous research suggesting vitamin E might protect against prostate cancer. Overall, about 160 of every 1,000 U.S. men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime.

Risks increase as men age. Detection can be tricky since symptoms such as frequent urination can also be caused by harmless conditions, and doctors disagree about the benefits of screening tests. Treatment is also complex since some slow-growing prostate cancers are not deadly but some procedures, including surgery, can damage sexual function and cause incontinence.

Just last week, a government-convened panel of experts recommended against routine PSA screening for prostate cancer. That draft advice is open for public comment.

What should vitamin E users do, given the new study results? About 13 percent of American men take it, according to a supplement trade group.

Dr. Otis Brawley, chief medical officer for the American Cancer Society, says they should stop taking large doses and talk to their doctors about risks and benefits from prostate cancer screening. Smaller doses, typically found in multivitamins, are probably fine, said Brawley, who was not involved in the research.


Personal Trainer
Left-handers' secret weapon
Sports history is filled with famous left-handed athletes, and science is still trying to understand that gift.
Tennis lefties
About 13% of the population is left-handed
About 8% of people play tennis left-handed
Several groups of top tennis players (World No. 1, World Top 10, Grand Slam finalists) between 1968 and 1999 were studied
Left-handers made up 16% to 40% of those groups
Many play right-handed
35% of tennis champions say they are left-handed
However, only 7% of those pros play holding the racket with their left hand
Source: International Journal of Neuroscience, Nov. 2000; World Book
© 2011 MCT Graphic: Paul Trap

CDC: Miners, construction, food workers smoke most

ATLANTA (AP)—Construction workers, miners and food service workers top the list of occupations that smoke the most, according to a new government report. Experts say it might have as much to do with lower education levels as the jobs themselves.

"There may be other characteristics that are clustering in these industries," said Dr. Tim McAfee, director of the Office on Smoking and Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Traits linked to higher smoking rates and seen in employees in these industries include being younger, having fewer years of education and making less money.

Also, some people who work outdoors are less likely to face the kind of indoor smoking bans seen in white-collar workplaces like schools, hospitals and office buildings, McAfee said.

The CDC study found 19.6 percent of working adults smoke, but as many as 30 percent in the mining, construction and food service industries smoke. Librarians and teachers smoked the least, at less than 9 percent.

For decades, the biggest smokers by profession have been roofers, drywall installers, brick and stone masons and other workers in construction trades. But health officials have warned construction workers may be at elevated risk from smoking, especially if they are exposed to asbestos. Studies have shown that people who work with asbestos are more likely to develop lung cancer if they also smoke.

Smoking also can pose extra danger for miners, who might ignite methane gas with matches or cigarette lighters. Federal officials say that since 1977, four major mine explosions have been blamed on smoking that combined killed 24 miners.

The CDC study is based on in-person interviews of more than 113,000 working adults in the years 2004 through 2010.

POI Aviation

Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Administrative Services Manager
Requires: College degree with 4 years progressive administrative/human resource management experience. Must have well-developed written/oral communication and management skills. Must be computer literate with experience in HRIS and timekeeping systems and various Microsoft software. Manages Company administrative and HR functions, ensuring standards and deadlines are met. Also oversees Airport parking booth operations and serves as the Company Quality Management Representative.

Accounting Manager
Requires: College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, Peachtree and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Passenger Service Manager
Requires: AA/AS degree with 8 years of progressive airline passenger service experience, with 3 of the 8 in supervisory capacity. Directs and coordinates airline station activities to provide passenger services for scheduled flight operations; liaises with client airlines. Must be knowledgeable with FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations.

Assistant Passenger Service Manager
Requires: AA/AS degree with 6 years of progressive airline passenger service experience, with 3 of the 6 in supervisory capacity. Supervises passenger service agents and liaises with the customer airline to resolve any concerns regarding flight handling operations. Serves as Ground Security Coordinator and as trainer in various airline passenger service systems. Must be knowledgeable with FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations.

Aircraft Maintenance, Ground Support Equipment and Aircraft Servicing Manager
Requires: AS degree in Aviation Maintenance Engineering with 10 years of progressive experience as a licensed A&P (airframe & power plant) Technician. Oversees the activities of Aircraft Maintenance Technicians; supervises all aircraft repair and services; supervises required interior and exterior cleaning of aircraft. Must hold current U.S. FAA A&P License and certified in various aircraft-types maintenance. Must be knowledgeable with FAA, ICAO, IATA, local airport and airline regulations.

Flight Operations and Ramp Service Manager
Requires: AA/AS degree with 8 years of progressive airline ramp operations and flight dispatch experience, with 3 of the 8 in supervisory capacity. Directs and coordinates activities of the ramp and flight dispatch operations in accordance with the airline policy and FAA, TSA, local airport regulation and established company policies and procedures. Must be knowledgeable with FAA, local airport and airline regulations and be US FAA licensed as an Aircraft Dispatcher.

Aircraft Service Agent
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Performs interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Lead Aircraft Service Agent
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Ramp Agent
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in ramp cargo loading and unloading operations. Operates equipment for loading and off-loading baggage/cargo to and from the aircraft for both commercial and freight aircraft. Ability to learn how to operate specialized equipment for aircraft servicing and ramp operations. Must be able to lift 70 pounds. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Lead Ramp Agent (2)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in ramp cargo loading and unloading operations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, operating equipment for loading and off-loading baggage/cargo to and from the aircraft for both commercial and freight aircraft. Ability to teach operation of specialized equipment for aircraft servicing and ramp operations. Must be able to lift 70 pounds. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (6)
Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician
Requires: AS Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering with 4 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Cargo Agent
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience as a cargo handler. Handles and accepts cargoes according to the IATA, FAA, TSA, local airport, airlines and company regulations. Prepares documents for out-going and transfer cargoes. Must be able to operate forklift and other cargo-handling equipment and be able to lift 70 pounds. Must be computer-literate and capable of learning the use of the CSP Cargo Trac System. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Lead Cargo Agent (2)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience as a cargo handler. Handles and accepts cargoes according to the IATA, FAA, TSA, local airport, airlines and company regulations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, preparing documents for out-going and transfer cargoes. Must be able to operate forklift and other cargo-handling equipment and be able to lift 70 pounds. Must be proficient in use of CSP Cargo Trac System. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (2)
Requires: Diploma from technical/vocational course on automotive/diesel engines with minimum of 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines for automobiles and other specialized motorized equipment. Performs mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles. Must also be skilled in parts fabrication. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic Supervisor
Requires: Diploma from technical/vocational course on automotive gas/diesel engines with minimum of 4 years experience, 2 of the 4 years in a supervisory capacity, in electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic system and gas/diesel engine maintenance. Plans work and supervises GSE mechanics in performing mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Passenger Service Agent (Chinese Translator)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Assists passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Chinese. Must be able to lift 70 pounds.

Lead Passenger Service Agent (3)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, assisting passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills. Must be able to lift 70 pounds.

Load Planning Specialist
Requires: Associates Degree with 2 years of aircraft ramp operation experience with specific airline certification as a load planner. Ensures that aircraft load is distributed and secured in accordance with aircraft weight and balance requirements, ensuring that the aircraft's operational or structural limitations are not exceeded. Must be computer-literate and can perform manual weight and balance calculations.

Senior Load Planning Specialist
Requires: Associates Degree with 4 years of load planning experience with specific airline certification as a load planner. Ensures that aircraft load is distributed and secured in accordance with aircraft weight and balance requirements, ensuring that the aircraft's operational or structural limitations are not exceeded. Prepares monthly flight activity reports. Must be computer-literate and can perform manual weight and balance calculations.

Applications can be obtained at the POI Aviation Office at the Continental Cargo Building at the airport. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than October 28, 2011. Back ground checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies is inviting qualified applicants to apply for the following positions:

Management Accountant (2)
College degree with accounting or financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in analyzing, interpreting and providing sound financial information. Must be adept in monthly financial statement preparation and consolidation, cash flow forecasting, budgeting, and providing financial projections. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self-management skills. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft Excel, Power Point and Project. CPA not required.

Accounting Manager
College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Accountant (3)
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Graphic Designer
Associate's degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or other related areas. Minimum of 3 years work experience in creating graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, depending on demand.

Corporate Paralegal Officer
Bachelor's degree in paralegal studies or in any related field. Minimum of 3 years experience providing sound legal research and reliable litigation support. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Familiarity with Lexis, Nexis and Westlaw is required.

Messenger
High school graduate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Engineering Manager
Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with at least 5 years of progressive management experience. Ability to successfully develop, implement and manage projects including the ability to provide effective leadership is a must. Adeptness in cost estimation and knowledge of quality control and federal regulations in environmental and occupational safety hazards is required. The duties of this job require constant outside travel and exposure to outside weather conditions. Must be able to provide his/her own transportation and must have a valid driver's license.

IT Manager
College degree with a major in computer science, computer technology or information engineering or other related areas is required. At least 5 years of progressive management experience and 8 years of sound and all-around IT technical experience is required. Must have well-developed written/oral and management skills and with a strong background in all IT hardware, software and communication business requirements.

Network Administrator
Associate's degree in any computer science, information engineering or other computer technology related areas. Must have at least 5 years of sound experience in local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, planning, designing, implementation, and user support. Must have knowledge in MS Exchange Email Server.

Programmer Analyst
Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Computer Technician
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone cables/systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Legal Secretaries (2)
Associates degree and at least 2 years work related experience in a legal office. Proficient in case and document management software, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook. Familiar in preparation and filing of pleadings and legal documents.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd_l&t@tanholdings.com not later than October 21, 2011.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Life & Style

Journey's new singer hopes fans will start believin' in him, too

By MIKE OSEGUEDA
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

FRESNO, Calif.—He knows. He's heard the comments and criticism, and he knows there's nothing he can do to change things.

Arnel Pineda will never be Steve Perry. And for that, some Journey fans will never accept him as the band's lead singer.

"I just have to deal with it," says Pineda, on the phone from a tour bus in Southern California. "It's not going to stop. I understand their sentiment. I myself am a big fan of Perry's voice."

On Wednesday, Journey's "Eclipse" tour rolls into Fresno, where the shadow of Perry looms ever larger—if that's possible.

Pineda and the rest of Journey will hop on stage at the Save Mart Center and belt out arena rock hits like "Don't Stop Believin'" and "Separate Ways," not far from where Perry was born and raised.

Minutes after the Fresno date was announced, the debates began—the Perry diehards who decry the "fake Journey" vs. the Journey diehards who think Pineda is the real deal.

It's not unlike what surrounds Van Halen: Sammy or Dave? You have to pick one.

The man at the center of the Journey debate is humble—even a bit sheepish when talking about it.

"I don't have a plan to outdo what Perry did," says Pineda, 44. "It can never be done. I'm just here to interpret what they've created. I'm just here to continue it.

"I'm one the biggest Journey fans. I would even step aside if he wanted to come back."

He could just be coy, but in talking to him, it feels as if Pineda genuinely sees himself as a outsider in all that is Journey—a band whose signature hit, "Don't Stop Believin'," has enjoyed a huge resurrection thanks to TV shows such as "The Sopranos" and "Glee."

It was after "The Sopranos" used the song in its final scene in 2007 that the Journey machine started to chug again. Problem was, the band didn't have singer at the time.

Perry and the band parted ways after he injured his hip in 1996. Journey waited a year and a half for Perry to get surgery, but ultimately found a replacement and went on tour without him. The two sides never reconciled. Perry—who also had a successful solo career outside of Journey—now resides in Southern California.

It was guitar player Neal Schon who found Pineda. There was no audition. No casting call. Schon found him on YouTube covering Journey songs with his band in the Philippines.

Though Pineda barely spoke English, he had the pipes to channel Perry and Sting with his band The Zoo. That type of mimicry is the norm, he says, in his home country.

DENNIS VAN TINE/ABACA PRESS/MCT

Arnel Pineda and Neal Schon of the music group Journey perform on NBC's "Today" show at Rockefeller Center in New York City on July 29, 2011.

"For us Filipinos," Pineda says. "We see these American and European artists as gods. We look up to them. We copy what they do. They inspire us to be like them."

That's why Pineda calls getting the gig with Journey his own "fairy tale."

He's a bit of a rock 'n' roll Cinderella—having once been homeless, before falling back on the singing he did as a child under the watchful eye of his mother.

His connection with Journey still baffles him some days.

"For me, it's really weird, like am I really singing with these guys?" he says. "Sometimes I can't get used to the fact that I'm singing with these guys."

It was a big adjustment at first, going from being in a cover band to being on a major tour with Journey. The first year, he says, was grueling.

"At first, I was trying to figure out how to do it, how to survive," Pineda says. "Now that I've survived it, I just have to figure out to prolong it."

Most of that, he understands, falls back to the fans. If they don't like him—most reviews seem to indicate they do—then maybe Journey is off to find another lead singer.

For now, though, Pineda is just trying to live the words he sings each night. You know, that don't-stop-believing stuff.

And maybe, just maybe, he can turn some Perry die-hards into believers.

Iranian, Filipino claim top Asian film awards

BUSAN, South Korea (AP)—An Iranian film and a Philippine one have shared the top awards for Asian productions at the region's largest film event.

Organizers of the Busan International Film Festival said Friday in a statement that the $30,000 New Currents Awards each went to Iranian director Morteza Farshbaf's "Mourning" and Philippine director Loy Arcenas's "Nino."

"Mourning" is about a deaf couple and their orphaned nephew while "Nino" is about a family gripped by greed.

While describing Farshbaf's film as a "confident attempt to create a new film language that is disturbing at times and heartwarming," organizers said that Arcenas has shown "a new rise of modern day values" through his work.

In the Flash Forward section—which awards non-Asian directors—Italy's Guido Lombardi claimed the top honor with "LA-BAS-A Criminal Education," which the organizers have described as "a multilayered, simply told story of the contemporary issue of migration." Lombardi also took away $30,000.

The nine-day film festival began last Thursday with a South Korean romance. On Friday it closed with veteran Japanese director Masato Harada's "Chronicle of My Mother," a story about a mother who slowly loses her memory and her repentant son.

This year marked the first time that the festival has been conducted without the leadership of its charismatic founder Kim Dong-ho, who stepped down last year amid health worries. The 16th edition also opened a new era for the event by being held in a lavish multiplex that cost $156 million to build.

Having opened recently, the showpiece Busan Cinema Center revealed structural problems on the last day of the event when rainwater leaked through at least a dozen cracks—worrying movie fans and prompting organizers to express regret and convene an emergency meeting.

South Korean movie fans Lee Yong-beom and Cho Ho-yeon expressed anxiety after they saw water profusely leaking from a steel corridor that hangs above the ground in the western section of the complex. Journalists also reported cracks widening at a press center in the building's southern section.

The leaks did not stop the organizers from going ahead with a closing ceremony in the evening. Earlier Friday, organizers and construction workers scrambled to stop the leaks.

Festival director Lee Yong-kwan blamed Hanjin Heavy Industries and Construction Co. for the cracks. The South Korean company, which built the theater, declined to comment, saying it had to investigate the holes first.

The Busan film festival, held in the South Korean port city, has featured 307 movies from 70 countries, organizers said. Nearly 200,000 people came to the festival at the new multiplex, they said.

Comic George Lopez says he will return to TV

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Comedian George Lopez said he is creating a new family-orientated sitcom where he will play a father and husband, vowing to return to television less than two months after TBS cancelled his late-night show "Lopez Tonight."

Lopez told The Associated Press his now untitled show "will be the opposite" of "George Lopez," the syndicated television sitcom that aired on ABC from 2002 and 2007 and made him a household name.

He also plans to star in his third live HBO standup special next year, his first since 2009.

Viewership for his late-night show on TBS declined heavily in its second year

He says the show suffered after he lost his 11 p.m. ET time slot to Conan O'Brien. He said TBS' plan was for Lopez to go on after O'Brien at midnight and win over O'Brien's young viewers.

Instead, Lopez's total viewership dropped 40 percent in its second year, from an average of 910,000 nightly viewers to 543,000. By August, the audience had dropped to 391,000.

The comedian said it is unfortunate his show was cancelled because there are few minority hosts on late-night television.

"I was heartbroken. Late-night talk show needs diversity," actress Eva Longoria told the AP of the cancellation. She attended a charity gala with Lopez in Las Vegas Saturday night.

Lopez, who often lampoons his Mexican heritage and upbringing, said there will not be a grandmother figure on his new show. On "George Lopez," Lopez often verbally sparred with an actress who played his mother. He promised he would tease all of his co-workers if the show is picked up for TV next fall.

"Whoever is my relative, I will not be nice to them," he said.

Death and Funeral Announcement

In Loving Memory of

Margarita Palacios Agulto Retan

Lovingly known as "Adic/Maggie"
January 06, 1948 - October 11, 2011

In her New Life she now joins her:
Parents: *†Guillermo Concepcion Agulto & †Martha Camacho Palacios Agulto*
God Parents: *†Luise Diaz San Nicolas, † Cecilia Sablan Tudela*
Siblings: *†Ignacio P. Agulto, †Roman P. Agulto, †Guillermo P. Agulto, †Daniel P. Agulto, †Dolores P. Agulto, †Maria A. Stoll, †Jesus P. Agulto*
Sisters/Brother-In-Law: *†Prudenciana S. Agulto, †Bernadita C. Agulto, †Steven Stoll*

Her memories will live in the hearts of her:
Children:
Ret. Gunnery-Sergeant USMC Jessie A. *and Maria E. Retan (Alex, Anthony, Andres); Jessilyn SN. Benevente (Asher)*
U.S Army Ret., Sergeant Felix Jr. A. *and Lola J. Retan (Zachery, Matthew, Nicolas, Taimane, Taio)*
Martha Rose R. *and Jon Eric Sablan (Markel, Kamaryn, Kaylee, Jon Ethan)*
Molly A. Retan *and Combiniano I. Taisakan (Isaiah)*
Joseph "Jay" A. Retan *and Katrina S. Mansfield (Emma Jayne)*
God Parent: *Juan Camacho Diaz*
Siblings:
Franciso P. *& Gregoria L. Agulto and children;* ***Jose P.*** *& Carmen SN. Agulto and children;*
Merced A. *& Augustin T, Camacho and children;*
Ana A. *& Rick Taunton and children;*
Sisters-In-Law: *Rita R. Agulto and children; Terry Hiroichi and children;*

She is also survived by her numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren and friends.

Nightly Mass is being offered at Santa Soledad, Kagman at 6pm, followed by the Rosary.

Last respects and viewing will be at Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, beginning at 7:45am.
Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 am followed by interment services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your presence and prayers for our beloved is greatly appreciated.

Thank you yan Si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen I famaguona, yan I familia.

Larry Hagman of 'Dallas' diagnosed with cancer

NEW YORK (AP)—Larry Hagman has been diagnosed with cancer.

Hagman

The 80-year-old actor is famous for playing J.R. Ewing on "Dallas." In a statement Friday, he said: "As J.R. I could get away with anything—bribery, blackmail and adultery. But I got caught by cancer."

Hagman declined to specify what kind of cancer he's contracted, but said it's "a very common and treatable form." He plans to continue working on a new reboot of "Dallas" for TNT, which begins production Monday.

The new "Dallas" focuses on the Ewing offspring as they clash over the future of the family dynasty. The original prime-time soap opera aired on CBS from 1978 to 1991. Hagman underwent a liver transplant in the mid-1990s.

Said Hagman: "As we all know, you can't keep J.R. down!"

Low-rated 'Charlie's Angels' grounded by ABC

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC says its revamped version of the 1970s hit "Charlie's Angels" is being shut down after only four airings because of low ratings.

The network said Friday that four more episodes remain to be aired. The action series focused on three female detectives in Miami.

But the reboot has struggled in the ratings since its premiere last month. It's ABC's first cancellation of the new fall season.

The original "Charlie's Angels" aired for six seasons on ABC and launched one of its angels, Farrah Fawcett, as a major star. More recently, two feature films were also produced.

AP

In this undated image released by ABC, from left, Rachael Taylor, as Abby Sampson, Minka Kelly, as Eve, and Annie Ilonzeh, as Kate Prince, are shown from the ABC series, "Charlie's Angels."

Lady Gaga, Usher prepare for Clinton's concert

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lady Gaga apparently won't be strutting around former President Bill Clinton in steak.

The pop superstar is one of several acts scheduled to perform Saturday night at a Los Angeles concert celebrating the 10th anniversary of the foundation founded by Clinton, who ditched his unhealthy eating habits for a "plant-based diet" after undergoing a quadruple bypass in 2004 and receiving stent implants to open one of the arteries from that surgery in 2010.

"In deference to my diet, she'll be going meatless that night," Clinton joked of the envelope-pushing artist, who donned a dress made of raw meat at the MTV Video Music Awards last year. "She is the most talented person though—even if you're an old fogey like me," he told David Letterman on Wednesday night's show.

Other artists set to perform at "A Decade of Difference: A Concert Celebrating 10 Years of the William J. Clinton Foundation" include R&B singer Usher, country star Kenny Chesney, Somali rapper K'Naan, Colombian crooner Juanes and rockers Bono and The Edge of U2. Ticket prices for the event, which will be streamed online by Yahoo, range from $50 to $550.

Clinton himself is no stranger to performing. The saxophone-playing politician memorably belted out "Heartbreak Hotel" when he visited Arsenio Hall's show during his 1992 presidential campaign. For the past decade, Clinton's foundation has sought to improve global health, strengthen economies worldwide, promote healthier childhoods and protect the environment.

Rick Ross reportedly hospitalized 2nd time

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (AP)—Rapper Rick Ross was reportedly hospitalized in Alabama after suffering two medical scares in six hours that required planes to be diverted.

The first scare came Friday afternoon as Ross was on a Delta Air Lines flight from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to Memphis, Tenn., where Ross was scheduled to appear at a University of Memphis basketball event that night. The plane returned to Florida after Ross suffered an unspecified medical problem. He was treated at a Fort Lauderdale hospital, and he even tweeted afterward: "Memphis here I come."

But after Ross hopped a Memphis-bound private jet, it made an unscheduled landing in Birmingham, Ala., because the 34-year-old singer experienced another medical problem, Memphis basketball coach Josh Pastner told a crowd at the Friday night event where Ross was to appear.

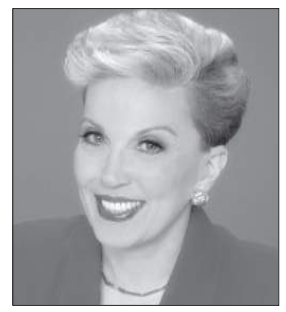
"On his way to Memphis," Pastner said, "he had to make another emergency landing, in Birmingham. He got really sick again, and they had to rush him to the emergency room."

WMC-TV in Memphis reported that Ross suffered a second medical seizure and had been hospitalized. The news station said the University of Alabama-Birmingham Hospital would not comment on his condition.

A hospital spokeswoman told The Associated Press that no one by Ross's name or his real name, William Leonard Roberts II, was listed as a patient. An emergency room representative, citing federal privacy laws, said she could not confirm the identity of anyone being treated there.

Son starts on second marriage before ending his first one

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My son, "Beau," married "Patsy" four years ago. She left him after two years and moved out of state. There are no legal separation papers, no child support, and my grandson lives with his daddy.

Beau has a mistress now and tells people they're "engaged." "Luci's" family refers to my son as her fiance and she's considered Mommy to my grandson. When I corrected those titles at a recent family function, it caused friction.

In my opinion, they can't be engaged until Beau is first divorced. To me, marriage is important; it matters. I am disturbed by my son's refusal to end his marriage. I feel it is unfair to Luci, who just had his second child. Beau claims Patsy left him, so she should file for the divorce.

Please understand that Luci and I have become close. She's thoughtful, intelligent, well-spoken, and a wonderful mother to both my grandchildren. I just feel Beau should finish his first marriage. This is not the type of man I meant to raise, and that this is the person he has become shames me to my soul.

Am I out of step with society? Am I the only one who finds this setup unfair to Luci and insulting to me, the mother who tried to raise him to be a better man than this? I have talked to a counselor, Abby, and it's killing me.

DISRESPECTED MOTHER IN TEXAS

DEAR MOM: You're not out of step, and you are correct that the current arrangement is unfair to Luci. If your son should die tomorrow (heaven forbid), Patsy would be a merry widow with all his assets, and Luci would be left with fond memories and a baby to raise by herself. Period.

Not knowing Beau, I can't know his reasons for not divorcing the woman who left him and ensuring that Luci and the children are taken care of. But I am sure of this: His reasons are NOT solely that he thinks his wife should be the one to file.

Raising a child well does not guarantee he (or she) will turn out to be a carbon copy of his or her parent. So for your own sake, please stop personalizing this.

DEAR ABBY: I was out to lunch with my son, his new wife, "Taylor," and her family. My son asked, "Mom, do you want something else to eat?" Naturally, I thought he was speaking to me, so I answered. I was crushed when he said, "No, I was talking to 'Sally'" (Taylor's mother)!

I feel it's wrong for my son to call someone else Mom, and furthermore, Sally should have said something, but she didn't. Taylor and I are close, but she would never call me Mom, especially in front of her own mother. Am I being silly? Or should I let this go?

HIS ONLY MOM

DEAR ONLY MOM: Let it go. Your son was probably calling Taylor's mother "Mom" because he had been asked to do so. ("'Sonny,' we're family now. Please call me 'Mom.'") It would not, however, be confrontational to tell your son that hearing him do it was hard to swallow.

DEAR ABBY: I walk daily with a friend who constantly complains about her job—"I have seven meetings, a person to train and emails to write, blah, blah, blah ..." I occasionally have an opening to mention my problems, but it's rare. I love this friend, but her constant complaining is wearing on me. How can I get her to just enjoy the break and not spend 20 minutes moaning and groaning?

WEARING THIN IN VIRGINIA

DEAR WEARING THIN: Try this. The next time she does it, say: "Let's not take the office with us. Let's enjoy our break and use the time to talk about other things." Say it with a smile, then change the subject.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Luc Besson's "The Lady" opens Rome Film Festival

ROME (AP)—French director Luc Besson's "The Lady," about Myanmar pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, will open this year's Rome Film Festival, organizers said Thursday. The Oct. 27-Nov. 4 festival will feature 15 in-competition films and conclude with a screening of a restored "Breakfast at Tiffany's" to mark the classic's 50th anniversary. "The Lady," which stars Michelle Yeoh and Daniel Thewelis, is being shown out of competition. Films vying for the Marc'Aurelio prizes include U.S. director Tanya Wexler's "Hysteria," about the invention of the vibrator in Victorian England; "Hotel Lux" by German director Leander Haussmann and Norwegian director Pal Sletaune's "Babycall." Richard Gere is to receive a special actor's prize, while directors Wim Wenders and Michael Mann are expected to be on hand for audience talks.

Taylor Swift donates 6,000 books to Pa. library

READING, Pa. (AP)—Taylor Swift wants children in the Pennsylvania city of Reading to hit the books—and she's made that easier by giving 6,000 volumes to the local library. Librarians unveiled the donation from the Grammy-winning country singer Thursday. Swift grew up in nearby Wyomissing and wasn't able to attend the event. Swift partnered with publisher Scholastic Inc. to donate the books for children and young adults. The titles were chosen by local librarians. Reading is a struggling city about 50 miles northwest of Philadelphia. Swift's representatives told library officials she wanted to help economically troubled libraries. Librarians say Swift's books will be marked with a white star on the spine and a sticker inside.

Feliciano plans cafe in Vienna

VIENNA (AP)—Jose Feliciano has already sung an ode to one of the world's musical capitals with "The Sound Of Vienna." Now he's about to get involved with the city's other main claim to fame - cafes. Helmut Schaerf, Feliciano's Austrian producer, says the Puerto Rican star plans to open a cafe next month that will feature beans from the family's plantation. He said Thursday Feliciano plans to be present for the Nov. 18 opening. Vienna's hundreds of cafes range from traditional establishments that opened more than a century ago to modern U.S. chains serving dozens of varieties of coffee and other beverages.

Environmental Media Association honors green shows

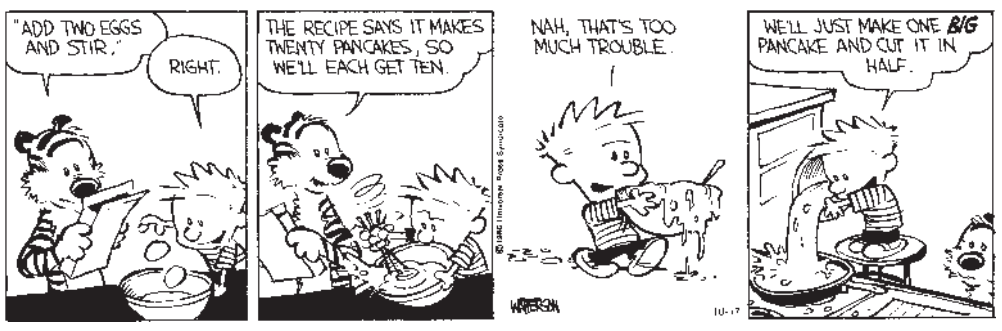
Timberlake

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—The Environmental Media Association has recognized six Hollywood productions for spreading the word about going green. Warner Bros.' animated "Yogi Bear" and the documentary "Revenge of the Electric Car" were honored Saturday night at the group's 21st anniversary party and awards ceremony at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, Calif. TV's "Futurama," "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," "HGTV Green Home 2011," "Real Time with Bill Maher" and the childrens' show "Bubble Guppies" also won awards for raising awareness about environmental issues. Justin Timberlake accepted EMA's Futures Award for his ecological efforts, which include advocacy for environmental issues, greening his concert tours and the eco-friendly golf course he owns near Memphis.

Pastimes

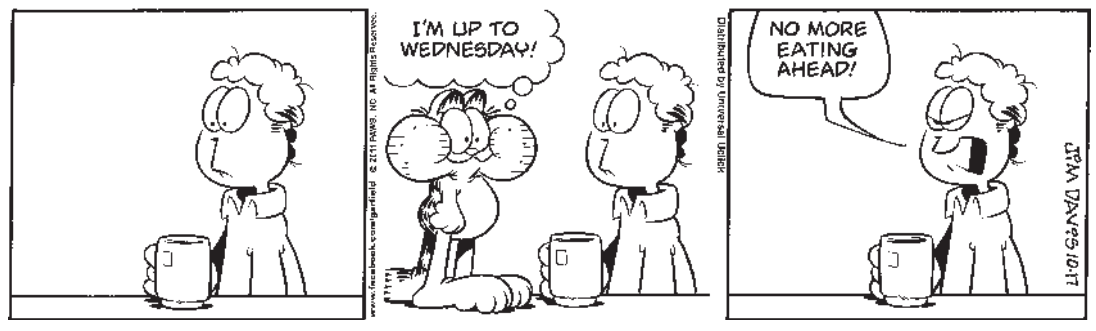
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


"ADD TWO EGGS AND STIR."
RIGHT.
THE RECIPE SAYS IT MAKES TWENTY PANCAKES, SO WE'LL EACH GET TEN.
NAH, THAT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
WE'LL JUST MAKE ONE BIG PANCAKE AND CUT IT IN HALF.

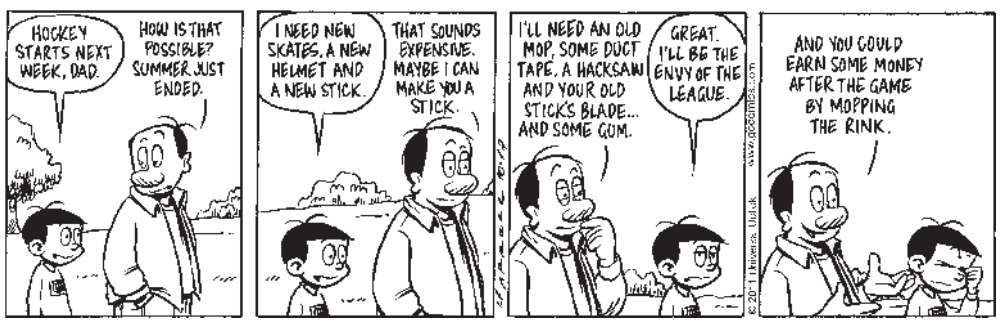
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HOCKEY STARTS NEXT WEEK, DAD.
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE? SUMMER JUST ENDED.
I NEED NEW SKATES, A NEW HELMET AND A NEW STICK.
THAT SOUNDS EXPENSIVE. MAYBE I CAN MAKE YOU A STICK.
I'LL NEED AN OLD MOP, SOME DUCT TAPE, A HACKSAW AND YOUR OLD STICK'S BLADE... AND SOME GUM.
GREAT. I'LL BE THE ENVY OF THE LEAGUE.
AND YOU COULD EARN SOME MONEY AFTER THE GAME BY MOPPING THE RINK.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CANDIDATE NUMBER TWO, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE MOST CRUCIAL PROBLEM FACING OUR COUNTRY?
RISING BEER PRICES.
He's GOT MY VOTE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

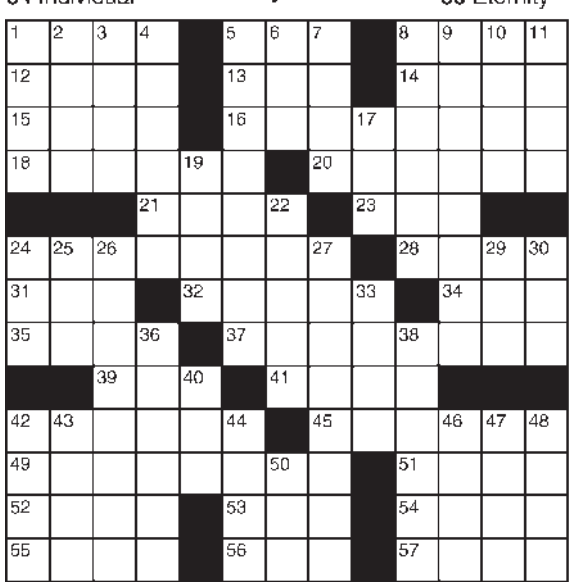
ACROSS
1 Bath powder
5 Snip
8 Corned beef recipe
12 Eye layer
13 — shoestring
14 Inner (Pref.)
15 Super Bowl party quaff
16 Westernmost Great Lake
18 Apprehend
20 Puts one's foot down
21 Hebrew month
23 Vast expanse
24 Diana Ross' backup
28 Remain
31 Bobby of hockey lore
32 Sample recordings
34 Individual
35 Appear
37 Endorses
39 Dawn goddess
41 Comic Caroline
42 Deodorant site
45 More gross
49 Stuff you need
51 Money of Lesotho
52 Initial stake
53 "To be or — ..."
54 Greek vowels
55 Nuisance
56 Type measures
57 Harvard rival

DOWN
1 Oom-pah instrument
2 State with conviction
3 Lecherous look
4 Life's work
5 Halloween outfits
6 Burma's first prime minister
7 Reveille's opposite
8 Medal earners
9 Disney employee
10 Halt
11 — d'oeuvre
17 Aliens, for short
19 Coaster
22 Madagascar primate
24 "Help!"
25 Suffix with press or fail
26 Replaces in the TV lineup
27 Those with faulty logic
29 Pismire
30 "Of course"
33 Detail, for short
36 Youngster
38 "Annie Get Your Gun" role
40 Part of RSVP
42 Pronto, on a memo
43 Mysterious character
44 Fork prong
46 Tittle
47 And others (Lat.)
48 Go up
50 Eternity

Solution time: 24 mins.

	A	E	S	O	P		F	I	N	G	E	R
M	O	R	T	A	L		A	N	Y	O	N	E
A	N	G	O	R	A		U	N	C	O	O	L
P	E	S	O		C	A	N	E		S	L	Y
			P	E	A	S		R	O	E		
U	P	S		A	R	T	S		B	E	T	A
S	A	T	U	R	D	A	Y	N	I	G	H	T
A	S	I	F		S	I	N	E		G	Y	M
		G	O	O		R	O	W	S			
D	U	M		S	T	E	P		E	T	N	A
I	T	A	L	I	A		S	I	P	H	O	N
S	A	T	E	E	N		I	N	T	A	C	T
C	H	A	I	R	S		S	K	A	N	K	

Saturday's answer 10-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eminem, 39; Wyclef Jean, 42; Rob Marshall, 51; Alan Jackson, 53.

Happy Birthday: Follow your heart and your dreams and good fortune will find you. Explore your inner thoughts and communicate with those who have something to offer. Look at your past and present and formulate how you can make the most of your future. Don't let negativity result in anger when positive action will bring the best outcome. Your numbers are 6, 13, 17, 22, 25, 37, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't share personal information. Someone will misinterpret what you say. Concentrate on following through and demonstrating your capabilities. Your effort will attract positive feedback. A partnership will change how you proceed. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You can do so much more to ensure that you have the skills to get ahead. Travel to destinations that are conducive to self-promotion. Educational pursuits will lead to knowledge that will make you a more complete package. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You have plenty to offer, and you will receive recognition for your contribution. A secret admirer will have suggestions that pique your interest regarding work and money. Use your charm to get what you want. Financial gains can be expected. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotional tension will soar if you don't address the problems you have with someone. Socializing will bring back the memory of a relationship from your past that you let slip away. Don't waste time with regret when amends can be made. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Not everyone will agree with your means or method of doing things. Stay well below the radar until you have reached a point where it is easier for others to comprehend. Avoid anyone asking for a straight answer to a personal question. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Ask, and you shall receive an invite to a gathering that will help you promote what you have to offer. A change in your vocation is apparent and will lead to extra money in your pocket. Ask for help to bring a dream to fruition. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take it upon yourself to make plans that suit your needs. Good fortune will be yours if you follow your heart and your intuition. Don't let the thoughts and action of others deter you from doing what will make you happy. Make a move. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): It's the tried-and-true that will see you through. Someone you've known for a long time will not let you down. Greater stability is heading your way if you are adamant about money matters. Time is of the essence, so don't procrastinate. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Favors will be granted and partnerships can be formed. Your knowledge and charm will dazzle the people you want to impress. Collaborating with someone creative will help you pull your ideas and plans together. Success awaits you. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You may know what's expected of you, but following through may not be so easy. Look to the people who know you best for advise. An interesting point of view will help you gain momentum. You can overcome any obstacle you face. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Do what's required without being asked and you will impress someone who will make a difference in your life. Good fortune will come your way if you are generous with your knowledge, ideas and hands-on help. Don't let personal problems slow you down. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): An opportunity to embrace an interesting partnership is apparent. There are gains to be made personally and financially. A property matter can be resolved if you apply a little pressure. Love is highlighted, and a personal contract will have a positive impact. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, innovative, expressive, passionate and dedicated.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	2	4	7	1		
			9	5				
	9						2	
9			3		2		6	7
2	3			7			1	4
7	5		4		1			8
	1						8	
				6	4			
		7	8	3	9	6		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

9	8	5	4	2	6	1	7	3
6	1	4	7	3	8	5	9	2
3	2	7	1	5	9	8	6	4
8	3	9	5	6	7	4	2	1
5	4	6	3	1	2	7	8	9
2	7	1	9	8	4	6	3	5
7	5	2	8	9	1	3	4	6
4	6	3	2	7	5	9	1	8
1	9	8	6	4	3	2	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

AMY WINEHOUSE (1983-2011) **Solution: 8 letters**

T	O	N	A	R	T	E	L	G	A	E	L	O	P	E
N	N	O	N	R	I	B	L	O	V	E	D	R	U	M
A	I	D	C	S	T	A	O	I	R	I	D	A	B	I
I	W	N	H	H	B	I	H	X	E	L	A	A	J	T
L	I	O	O	O	A	E	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H
L	L	L	R	W	E	R	T	T	A	D	C	U	A	S
I	D	R	I	B	Y	L	I	T	I	X	E	I	T	A
R	S	I	N	G	E	R	U	T	Y	C	I	T	T	I
B	V	O	C	A	L	S	B	F	Y	B	M	A	O	L
R	A	M	Y	W	I	N	G	S	L	O	O	R	O	O
I	L	F	R	A	N	K	C	U	L	U	Ⓣ	Ⓞ	Ⓤ	Ⓡ
T	E	F	Z	U	E	T	T	E	K	C	O	P	P	E
I	R	A	Z	E	R	E	G	N	O	R	T	S	S	H
S	I	N	A	J	E	T	A	G	H	T	U	O	S	A
H	E	S	J	K	C	A	L	B	O	T	K	C	A	B

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Alex, Amy, Anchor, Artistic, Back to Black, Band, Beehive, Betty Boop, Bird, Box, Brilliant, British, Charity, Dance, Drum, Eagle, Elope, Eyeliner, Fans, Frank, Guitar, Hair, Jade, Janis, Jazz, London, Love, Luck, Mole, Pocket, Rehab, Sailor, Show, Singer, Soulful, Southgate, Strength, Stronger, Tattoo, Taxi, Time, Tour, Valerie, Vocals, Wild, Wings, Wino

Last Saturday's Answer: Specialist

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

EMPLOYMENT

8 Janitors & Cleaners. Salary-$5.05-$5.50/hr. MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. Email resume to: admin@mto-saipan.com

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EMPLOYMENT

2 Generator Techinician. Salary-$5.05 - $14.00/hr. Elliott Systems LLC. Email resume to: jeff@elliott-systemsllc.com

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1-Commercial Cleaner, $5.05 per hour; 1-General Maintenance, $5.05 per hour. No phone calls please Mail resume to Chalan Kiya Apt. Circle at PO Box 502418, Saipan, MP 96950

1-General Maintenance, $5.05 per hour. No phone calls please Mail resume to Matilde Fejeran at PO Box 502418, Saipan, MP 96950

1-Accountant, $5.05-$6.50 per hour Mail resume to RR & Associates at PO Box 504039, Saipan, MP 96950 or call (670) 233-8391

ASC Construction is looking for 1-Project Manager-$16.92/hr.-$17.00/hr. Must have Bachelor's Degree in Engineering. Min. 10 years experience as Project Manager. Mail resume to PMB 885 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950. No phone calls please

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EMPLOYMENT

1 Architect. Degree required. 5 yrs exp. Utility residential design ACAD v2011. Send resume to P.O. Box 505339

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1 Administrative/Accounting Clerk, $5.50 to $6.50: Must have more than 5 years experience in accounting work; at least 6 months work experience in public accounting office; at least 4 years work experience in administrative position and exposure working with the company executives; knowledge in Quickbooks, Peachtree, FAS & tax software. Please send your resume at P.O. Box 503198, Saipan MP 96950 (Ernst & Young (CNMI), Inc.)

1-Commercial cleaner $5.05/hr. min. of 5 yrs. experience. Send resume to P.O.Box 5545 CHRB Saipan. JH Ent.

3-Cooks, $5.05 /hr., 5 yrs. experience, will work at 3:00 AM. Call D' Pirates Bar & Catering Services @ 235-3663.

EMPLOYMENT

1-Waitress, $5.05/hr., must have 5 yrs. experience, pleasing personality, knows how to entertain customers, flexible work schedule. Call D' Pirates Bar & Catering Services @ 235-3663.

1-Aircon Technician, $5.05-$7.00/hr., 10yrs. experience, knowledge in centralized aircon & industrial electricity, will work day or night. Call T&G Aircon & Refrigeration Services @ 888-9161.

1-Maintenance, $5.05/hr., 5 yrs. experience, willing to work day or night. Call Nokalimi Office Rental @ 888-9161.

1-Accountant, $5.05/hr., 7 yrs. experience, knowledge in Quickbooks software. Call T&G Aircon & Refrigeration Services @ 888-9161.

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1 – Beautician $ 5.05/hr. 2 yrs. exp. Send resume to E & M Beauty Salon P.O. Box 484 San Jose Tinian MP 96952. Tel. 433-4560

S.K.Y. Inc. is looking for (1) Japanese/English Translator $ 6.00/hr. 5 yrs. exp. Send resume to iikaori330@yahoo.co.jp

---

USG Investments, Inc. is looking for (1) Ground Maintenance - $.5.55/hr. min. 5 yrs. exp. E-mail resume to jessp96950mm@yahoo.com

---

MAC Corporation is looking for (1) Tint Installer-$5.05/hr. 10 yrs. exp. E-mail resume to maccation@gmail.com

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1 Accountant, Salary $5.05-$7.00/hr. Bachelors Degree in Accounting

WHATZIT Solution:
Pick and choose

Saipan Tribune
Make it your daily habit.

EMPLOYMENT

w/ 5 years experience. Knowledgeable with AccountEdge Premium Accounting Software. Allied Marine Surveyors, Ltd. Email resume to allied@pticom.com

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5 Technician, College Graduate 3 yrs. min experience. Minimum salary. Know how to repair computer, electronics, engine.
Calvatron JR 233-5641

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8 Masseuse–Royal Thai Massage. 1 yr experience, green card or US citizen preferred pls call 234-2521

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(1) Title Support Specialist. Send resume to SECURITY TITLE INC PO Box 5049 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 or email: securitytitle@pticom.com

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Sales Rep. $5.05 p/h. At least 2 yrs exp; Must provide own car; can work on weekends & holidays. Yoyi's Catering. 2883738

Cook. $5.05 p/hr. w/ 2 yrs exp, specializes in Fil recipes; Can work on weekends, nights, holidays. Yoyi's Catering. 2883738

Manager. College grad; At least 3 yrs exp; knows MS Word/Excel; Can wrk weekends, nights, holidays. Yoyi's Catering. 2883738

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2 Mandarin Teachers–w/ 2 yrs experience. Pls call 233-3988. Chinese Association of Saipan. Chinese Education Center

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1-Violin Instructor. 5 years experience. Doremi Music School. Tel: 233-7777

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(13) Mason, (5) Carpenter, (1) Plumber. 5 years experience. Email resume to landmark@pticom.com

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Anaks Resort Development. Inc. is in need of : 1-Office Manager. Minimum of 5 years experience in Property Management. 1-Maintenance Mechanic, 1-Plumber, 1-Electrician, 1-Commercial Cleaner. Minimum of 5 years experience. Email resume

EMPLOYMENT

to anaks.office@gmail.com

United Front Co., Ltd. is looking for the ff: 1-Manager, 1-Scuba Diving Instructor, 1-Mechanic. Must be PADI Certified. Minimum of 5 years experience. Email resume to unifrocolt@yahoo.com

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Marianas Resort Development Co., Inc. is looking for1-Office Manager, Min. 5 years experience. E-mail resume to covalee12@yahoo.com

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U.S. Saipan-China Hotel Co., Ltd. is looking for 1-Operations Manager, 1-Tour Coordinator. Min. 2 years experience in hotel business. E-mail resume to usschotelcolt@yahoo.com

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Flower Corporation is looking for 1-Scuba Diving Operations Manager. 1-Scuba Diving Instructor. Must be PADI Certified Min. 5 years experience. E-mail resume to corporation. flower@gmail.com

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4JC Corporation needs:
(1) Accountant. Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Min. 5 yrs work exp in Financial Statements preparation. Knowledge of PIII Acctg software Salary $5.05–13.50/hr.

(2) Press Operators –min. 5 years work experience in operating press machines can work under pressure to meet deadline

(1) Graphic Designer–min 5 years experience in Printing and Advertising Company; Knowledge in graphics and visual display software.
E-mail resume to immanuel.saipan@gmail.com

Dipoto Co. is looking for: 4 Photographers - 3 years experience: 1 Manager - 5 years experience. Email resume to dipoto@naver.com

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(1) Interior Designer, (2) Mason, (2) Carpenter, (2) Commercial Cleaner. Send resume to JAR Design Construction PMB 2025 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950.

Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND
"Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members"
1980

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT 12-01
Accounting Manager

OPEN: **OCTOBER 11, 2011** CLOSED: **OCTOBER 25, 2011**
Salary Level: **33** FLSA Status: **Exempt**

The NMI Retirement Fund is seeking an experienced and knowledgeable individual to fill the position of Accounting Manager. The incumbent is responsible for the management of the NMIRF Accounting Section and the accomplishment of all of NMIRF's accounting activities including overseeing the preparation of the NMIRF budget and assisting the Administrator in explaining the financial needs of the NMIRF to the Board of Trustees. The Accounting Manager works independently with a high level of discretionary authority and minimum guidance in the management of the Accounting Section.

Interested applicants must submit their **application, resume, educational credentials and police clearance.** The complete package is available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan; or by e-mail through the Fund Administrator. **Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked "JVA12-01 Confidential," and must have the applicant's name and return address on the outside of the envelope.**

Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
NMI Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

(2) BUILDING MAINTENANCE & REPAIR ($5.05 to $7.00 per hour)

- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks.
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction with solectria inverter experience.
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions.
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and other building trades areas
- Extensive work experience with hemodialysis/maintenance/plumbing & construction is required.
- Must have a valid driver's license.

(2) HOUSEKEEPER ($5.05 TO $6.00 per hour)

- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, polishers, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings.
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required.
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste, and other disposable materials.
- Must handle various cleaning solvents, chemical, etc.
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, window, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily.
- Wet mop floors and bathrooms daily. Damp mop all corridor floors, lobby and others daily.
- Report any needed repairs immediately.
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' area and lobby.
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping services.
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have own transportation
- Is required to clean employee's housing prior to and post occupancy.
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner the Business, Dr's., Accounting, Dietician and Clinic Manager's Offices.

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., dba Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan or for information, please call 234-2902 and ask for Connie Aldan or Judy Arriola.

CHOI CORPORATION
DBA: KOREA HARDWARE
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Assistant Manager **Salary: $5.05/Hour**
Can speak/write English, Chinese and Korean Language
College or High School Graduate w/ 10 years experience in a hardware store.
Must be computer literate and have a valid drivers license.
Must be able to provide customer service by greeting, assisting and responding to inquiries and complains.
Must be able to monitor sales activities to ensure that customers receive good service and quality goods.
With knowledge to purchase products local and overseas, Import/Export, Compute Cubic Feet, & OSHA regulations.

(1) Accountant **Salary: $5.05/Hour**
Holders a degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce Major in Accounting. 10 years experience in the field of accounting & in a hardware store. Proficient in MS Excel and MS Word and have a valid drivers license.
Must be knowledgeable in Account Payables/Receivables, Bank Reconciliation, Payroll, Wire Transfer, Withholding Tax, FICA Tax, BGR Tax, Excise Tax and any other taxes required in a company.
With knowledge to purchase products local and overseas, Import/Export, Compute Cubic Feet, & OSHA regulations.
Must be able to prepare Financial Statement Report.

(1) Electrician, Building **Salary: $5.05/Hour**
College or High School Graduate w/ 10 years experience in a field of electricity. Must be computer literate.
Must be skilled in connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components.
Must be skilled in repair or replace wiring, equipment using hand tools and power tools.
Must be able to play lay-out and installation of electrical wiring, equipment based on job specifications and local codes.

(1) Material Coordinator **Salary: $5.05/Hour**
Can speak/write English and Korean Language
College Graduate w/10 years experience. Must be computer literate and have a valid drivers license.
Must be able to coordinates activities involved with procuring goods and services such as materials, equipment, tools, parts, supplies and advertising for establishments. Must be able to confers with vendors to obtain product or service information such as price, availability and delivery schedule.
Must be able to selects products for purchase by testing, observing or examining items.
With knowledge to purchase products local and overseas, Import/Export, Compute Cubic Feet, & OSHA regulations.

(1) Sales Representative **Salary:$5.05/Hour**
Can speak/write English and Korean Language
College Graduate w/ 5 years experience. Computer literate and have a valid drivers license.
Must be able to works for the customer satisfaction, revenue generation, and long-term account goals in line with the company vision and values. Must be able to assist in the implementation of marketing plans as needed and maintain accurate records of all sales.

Interested applicants must send resume to Fax# 235-0697
No Phone Calls Please

Job Vacancy Announcement – Chong's Corp.

One (1) SALES ENGINEER - Salary $1,200 - $2,500/monthly

- Sells HVACR mechanical, electrical and related equipment, parts, supplies with required professional engineering knowledge and judgment on product recommendation
- Prepares estimates on equipment, parts, supplies or services as needed
- Knowledgeable in Building Management System
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans & specifications and prepare shop drawing

One (1) ACCOUNTANT - Salary $1,200 - $2,500/monthly

- Prepare tax returns, tax payments & financial reports and verify its accuracy and conformance with Standard Accounting principle
- Monitor daily transactions, prepare journal entries and record into Peachtree Accounting program
- Handle customer billings, collections, cash receipts, payment & payroll
- Knowledgeable in Peachtree Accounting program and Microsoft office
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting required

Four (4) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION - Salary $5.05 - $8.00/hr

- Install , service and repair of ventilation, central air conditioning and refrigeration systems
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT control systems and electrical/electronic control systems
- Repair and service of chilled water air conditioning system
- EPA Section 608 and R-410A Certification required

One (1) SHEET METAL WORKER - Salary $5.05 - $7.00/hr

- Fabricate, assemble, install and repair sheet metal products and equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes and furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications

- All above must possess good communication skill and minimum 10-year experience required

One (1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER - Salary $5.05/hr

- Perform duties to maintain and clean office & private residence in an orderly manner
- Perform basic household chores
- Must be honest, responsible, reliable & efficient at all times and police clearance required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

1 PRIVATE HOUSE HOLD
Minimum of 5-10 yrs experience
$ 5.05/hr

Bespren Development Corp,
dba Carefree Services
Please contact Rudy at 233-6927

Grace Christian Assembly
is looking for:

Accountant (1)
Bachelor's degree in Accounting
5 or more years in Church Accounting
Willing to work on flexible time.

Get application at Grace Christian Assembly,
1:30 to 3:30 PM, Tuesday to Friday.

www.saipantribune.com

Grace Christian Academy
is looking for:

Accountant (2) needed:
Bachelor's Degree in Accounting
5 or more years accounting in
Christian school Proficiency in
Accountrak/School Minder programs

Download application at www.gca-nmi-com
and submit at Grace Christian Academy

HOLLYWOOD NAIL ART
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Nail Designer. Salary $5.05 p/h.
5 years working experience in Nail Art.
Chinese, Japanese, and
Korean speaking preferred.

Interested U.S. Citizen applicants,
please call 285-8629

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

3-Beautician (all around)
$ 5.05/hr

1-Supervisor Beautician
(all around)
Min. 5 to 10 yrs experience
$ 5.05/hr

Bespren Development Corp,
dba Exquisitie Beauty Salon
Please contact Rudy
at 233-6927

FABRICLEAN OF CNMI
dba MARIANAS CLEANERS
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) DRY CLEANER SPECIALSIT.
Salary $5.05 p/h. Minimum of 3 yrs experience In dry cleaning.
GED or High School Graduate. Police Clearance required.

Interested U.S. Citizen may pick – up an application
at Marianas Cleaners. Call 234-6239/5323

Charms Inc.
Vacancy Announcement

1 **Engine Marine Mechanic.** 2yrs experience. To inspect, repair, replace engine and machinery.
1 **Beautician.** 2yrs experience. All around. Must have knowledge in all services provided in a saloon especially skin care.
1 **Beautician Manager.** 2yrs experience. Knowledge in Skin Care. Manage and operate the saloon.
1 **Beautician/Masseuse.** 2yrs experience. Knowledge in beauty & massage a plus.

Interested applicants please call 233-9391.

Double Luck Int'l Corp.
Vacancy Announcement
2-Pet Shop Helper
3yrs experience required. Maintain water piping & water system. Knowledge in breeding gold fishes. Take care, feed, clean, and arrange animal poultry feed.

Interested applicants please call 234-3873

CYC Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement

Open Date: 10/12/11 Closing Date: 10/18/2011

1 **Store Manager.** Salary: $6.00-7.00 p/h. Must have 5 yrs experience in managing retail operations. Chinese speaking highly preferred. Valid Drivers License required. Availability to work evenings, holidays, and weekends. Honest and Trustworthy.

1 **Accountant.** Salary: $5.05-6.05 p/h. Bachelor in Accountancy. 5 yrs experience. Knowledge of Federal and CNMI tax laws (can compute and file taxes). Knowledge in purchasing inventory, payroll and bank reconciliation. Ability to prepare financial reports. Proficient in MS Excel, MSWord and Accounting software.

Interested applicants must have their own transportation.

Applicants may submit their resume at **CYA Koblerville Market**, located near St. Jude Church in Koblerville. **No phone calls.**

(1) Manager
3 – 5 yrs work related experience in the general publishing, printing and advertising industry is a must. Preferably can read, write, and speak Japanese.

All Interested applicants may email their resume to nagano-p.ad@live.jp or send to PMB 194 P.O. Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Nagano Printers, Inc.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

D & W ENTERPRISES, INC
P.O. Box 500440, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel: 322-7415/8733

1-Diesel Tank Truck Driver
Salary: $5.05 - $5.55 per hour, Full time
- Must have 7 years experience as Diesel Tank Truck Driver
- Knowledge to operate and load Diesel at filling rack and read gauges or meters
- Training is required in Hazardous Material Transportation
- Familiarization in hazard Class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard materials/Dangerous Goods)
- Commercial Drivers License certificates is required

1 Accountant/Bookkeeper
Salary: $1,000.00-$1,300.00 monthly. Full time
- Must have 5 years work related experience in accounting
- Familiar with Diesel business activities
- Knowledge in Peachtree software

Vacancy Announcement
(4) Fish Processors, (1) Accountant, (8) Fishermen, (3) Boat Mechanics, (1) Network/Computer Systems Administrators.
4-5 years working experience required.

Send resume to PMB 605 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
(US Citizen or Permanent Resident)

LAW OFFICE
Vacancy Announcement:
Legal Secretary/Legal Assistant

Require:
- Valid U.S. Immigration status such as U.S. Citizen, permanent resident alien, etc
- High school graduate
- Computer literate
- Valid CNMI Driver's license
- Trustworthy, reliable, loyal to clients
- Outstanding work ethic, results oriented, fast learner, detail oriented, work effectively under deadlines and pressure

Prefer:
- Chamorro and/or Refaluwasch fluency
- Experience in the legal field
- Education beyond high school

Pay and benefits commensurate with skills, experience and performance

Please telephone 235-8846
(9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

3 - Amusement Machine Servicers and Repairer/Electronic Technician - $5.05 - $5.25 / hr
AD in Electronics w/ 3 yrs exp. in trouble shooting, repair and maintenance of video slot machines. Know how to test electronic components & circuit boards to determine cause of malfunction and ability to fix minor & major problem. W/ valid driver's license. Can work flexible hours.

1- Gaming Change Persons and Booth Cashier $5.05/hour
3 yrs exp. Safeguard game room's change funds and ensure no shortages/overages incurred. Prepare accurate and reconciled game room reports. Math proficient, skillful in using calculator and other computing machines, and trustworthy. Can work flexible hours.

1- Building Custodian / Cleaner - $5.05
3 yrs exp. Monitor premises' security and safety. Service & clean restrooms, game room, & other areas, vacuum carpets and floors. Monitor supplies or equipment. Perform minor repairs to cooling, plumbing systems. Ability to lift & move heavy supplies and objects. Can work flexible hours.

Send resume to ANL_HRD3@yahoo.com no later than October 21, 2011

A&L Corporation

AUGUSTIN R. AYUYU
dba LI LAI GANG MARKET

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Opening Date: October 13, 2011
Closing Date: October 19, 2011

(1) **Store Manager.** Salary: $6.00-$7.00 p/h. Must have 5 yrs experience in managing retail operations. Chinese language highly preferred. A valid driver's license required. Flexible time is required. Honest & trustworthy.

(1) **Sales Person.** Salary: $5.05 p/h. Minimum of 5 yrs work-related experience. Must know how to operate cash register. A valid driver's license required. Flexible time is also required. Honest & trustworthy.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation.

Applicants must submit their resume at **LI LAI GANG Market**, located near David Market in Koblerville. **NO PHONE CALLS.**

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
AUDITOR
Opening: October 12, 2011 to October 22, 2011

Job description: Duties include performing audit risk assessment procedures; performing test of internal controls related to financial statement audit in accordance with GAAP in the US and compliance audits in accordance with the applicable standards; performing detailed substantive audit procedures; preparing draft Audit Reports and Financial Statements; and performing compilation, review and agreed-upon procedure engagements.

Qualification: Graduate of BS Accountancy or related degrees, with at least 3 years experience in auditing private, government and not-for-profit organization. **Salary:** $26,500 per annum

Interested applicants may fax their resume at J. Scott Magliari & Co at 670-233-8214 or email at jsm@magliari-cpa.com on or before October 22, 2011.

EMPLOYER: **PACIFIC BLUE CORP.**
P.O BOX 505701 CK SAN JOSE/Phone: (233-0168)

Contact Person: Ms. Dela Cruz /Mr. Dizon (elvie@pcoutletguam.com)

Job Title: **(1) COMPUTER and LARGE FORMAT PRINTER TECHNICIAN**
Job Classification: COMPUTER and MATHEMATICAL OCCUPATIONS
Salary Range: $5.05 /Hourly Full Time (no House Provide)
WORK COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE
Job Duties:
- Performs repairs and analysis of all kinds of computers including Macintosh, computer peripherals and all kinds of printers.
- Install or repair Windows or Macintosh computers with standardized applications and networking software, diagnosing and solving problems that develop in their operations.
- Provide sales quotation(s) of recommended/preferred computer to the customer
- Diagnose defective personal computer & peripheral devices
- Train new users and Diagnose defective Large Format Printer
- Repair & Maintenance of Large Format Printer

Qualification Requirements: (5) FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE

Job Title: **(1) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN AND COMPUTER SPECIALIST**
Salary Range: $5.05 /Hourly Full Time (no House Provided)
WORK COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE
Job Duties:
- Install or repair Windows or Macintosh computers with standardized applications and networking software, diagnosing and solving problems that develop in their operations and all kinds of printers also Rebuilds fuser assemblies for specific laser printers.
- Installs printers, Ethernet cards, scanners, software packages and optional hard wares of personal computers; installs upgrades of motherboard, memory, processor and hard drive systems in personal computers.
- Repairs desktop and laptop motherboards, LCD and CRT monitors, projectors, computer peripherals and other electronic devices by replacing the specific defective parts (i.e. chipsets, capacitors, resistors, fuses, etc.).
- Install, operate, maintain, troubleshoot and resolve open issues related but not limited to network PC's, printers, wireless routers, hubs, switches, modems, LAN, WAN, connectivity, and other network related problems also Outbound jobs.

Job Title: **(1) COMPUTER SALES ASSOCIATE**
Salary Range: $5.05 /Hourly Full Time (no House Provide)
WORK COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE
Job Duties:
- Selling our products by performing excellent presentations, demonstrating professional demeanor, and displaying unparalleled product knowledge
- Show the customer the features and benefits that support customer needs established during the qualifying process. Explain various features as the customer uses the merchandise while continuing to qualify and eliminate objections
- Stay up-to-date with all technology and product information, compensation growth
- Responsible for merchandising a specified area of store (cleaning, tagging, ensuring all display items are accurate)

Qualification Requirements: (5) FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE

SUMY, INC.

(1) Sales Representative
Salary: $5.05/Hour
- Can speak/write English and Korean Language
- College Graduate w/ 5 years experience. Computer literate and have a valid drivers license.
- Must be able to works for the customer satisfaction, revenue generation, and long-term account goals in line with the company vision and values. Must be able to assist in the implementation of marketing plans as needed and maintain accurate records of all sales.

Interested applicants must send resume to Fax# 235-0697

No Phone Calls Please

Vacancy Announcement

1 – Groundskeeper/Landscaper

Must be skilled in working with and maintaining various grounds keeping equipment, including power tolls: bush cutter, hedge trimmer, chainsaw and riding mower. Maintain lawns driveways water catchments and landscaping around house rentals. Have a basic knowledge of outdoor plumbing and maintenance for landscaping. Must have at least five years experience with references from prior employers; posses a valid driver's license and a current police clearance. 32 hour work week at $5.05 per hour. Interested U.S. applicant only. Call Rosa Sorensen @ 322 -2424.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Maintenance & Repair Worker. Wage range $5.05 per hour.

Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; masonry, repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Applicant will be responsible for maintaining and servicing employer's private home as well as rental properties owned by employer and employer's family, employer's office, contracted for residences and commercial spaces and commercial building area. High school level, or an equivalent of at least 15 years of continued experience in maintenance and/or construction related trades. Must know how to operate a large variety of power equipment safely and in a non-destructive manner. Must be significantly skilled in masonry and carpentry and plumbing. Must arrive for work on time, all of the time. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays, as required. Must be able to plan and execute repair and maintenance work in a self-contained environment. Must be able to read, and write basic English and speak and understand spoken English well. Able to converse in Tagalog or other non-English languages preferred. Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health and good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must have no criminal history and be able to provide current police and court clearance, must be able to obtain health certificate, must have reliable transportation and must agree to a drug test. Please email complete resume to Seanfrink@gmail.com by October 18.

Luen Fung Enterprises (Saipan), Inc.
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the below positions.

Sales Officer (5) - High school graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 8 years selling experience in wholesale and retail field. The qualified applicant must be able to meet monthly sales target and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must have good oral and written communication skills. Proficiency in Chinese language is an advantage. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Valid driver's license is required.

Warehouse Manager (1) - Associate degree holder with at least 5 years management experience in wholesale warehouse operations. The qualified applicant must have extensive knowledge in the area of receiving, inventory management, quality control, storage, product handling & dispatching operations. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Valid driver's license is required.

Purchasing Agent (1) - Graduate of a 4 year degree course with at least 10 years experience in a wholesale and retail company. Qualified applicant must have extensive knowledge in the area of wholesale operations (food and non-food items), ordering, shipment planning, costing and receiving. Good customer service skills, good oral and written communication skills are required. Proficiency in Chinese language is an advantage. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Valid driver's license is required.

Delivery Driver (3) – High school graduate with at least 3 years experience. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of items on the job. Capable of loading, unloading and delivering goods/merchandise to customers. Must be able to perform mathematical computation in case of returns and adjustments. Dependable, hard working, can work flexible hours such as weekends and late hours and able to follow directions well. Must possess Food handler's certificate and a valid driver's license.

Commercial Cleaner (2) – 5 years experience. Can handle job in cleaning commercial establishments both in manual and use of electric power equipment. Should be flexible, hardworking and reliable. May be required to do other duties.

Meat Cutter (1) - High school level with at least 7 years experience. Dependable, hard working, can work flexible hours such as weekends and late hours, able to follow directions well and can work under pressure. Must possess Food handler's certificate.

Accountant (1) - Bachelor's degree in Accounting with at least 10 years experience in wholesale & retail business. Proficiency in general ledger, tax computations and preparation of financial statements is a must. Qualified applicant must have a clean track record, honest, dependable and trustworthy. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Valid driver's license is required.

Accounting Associates (3) – Graduate of a 2 to 4 years degree course with at least 8 years accounting work experience in a wholesale and retail company. Qualified applicant must have extensive knowledge and experience in handling of receivables, payables, costing, billing and invoicing is a must. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Valid driver's license is required.

Warehouse Worker (6) - At least 7 years experience. Must be able to do strenuous work such as unloading, loading with some lifting and carrying of items on the job. Qualified applicant must be familiar with picking, stacking and releasing merchandise. Qualified applicant must be dependable, hard working, can work flexible hours such as weekends and late hours and able to follow directions well. Must know how to operate pallet jack and forklift equipments. Must posses Food handler's certificate and a valid driver's license.

Building Repair & Maintenance (1) – High school graduate or equivalent with at least 10 years experience. Must have extensive knowledge and experience in electrical, refrigeration, carpenter work, monitoring and service of in-house generator and general repairs of buildings. Must have obtained certifications/training for 16-Hour Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 8-hour Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response, Technician Type I, II as required by 40 CFR 82 Subpart. Valid driver's license is required. Must be available - 24 hours on-call.

For applications to be considered, they must be submitted to our office no later than October 21, 2011. Our office is located at:

Luen Fung Enterprises
Gualo Rai, Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950

All applicants must have a current police clearance.
A pre-employment drug testing will be required.
Salaries will be commensurate with qualificationand experience.

MARIANAS BAPTIST CHURCH AND ACADEMY
P.O. Box 500904 Saipan, MP 96950 Tel/Fax No. (670) 234-6508

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER
Qualifications
- Holder of Bachelor's degree in Education major in Science
- At least 5 years teaching experience
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures
- Be able to teach AP Chemistry, Biology and Physics

JAPANESE TEACHER (Part Time)
Qualifications
- Holder of Bachelor's Degree in Japanese Language or its equivalent
- At least 2 years teaching experience
- Proficient in both oral and written Japanese language
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures
- Be able to teach AP Japanese and related courses

MUSIC TEACHER (Part Time)
Qualifications
- Holder of Bachelor's Degree in Music or its equivalent
- At least years teaching experience
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures
- Be able to teach voice, piano and string instrument

BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER
Qualifications
- High School graduate
- At least 5 years experience in plumbing, masonry, painting, electrical and ground maintenance
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Qualifications
- Holder of Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy or its equivalent
- At least 5 years experience in record keeping, financial management and bookkeeping
- Proficient in Microsoft computer operation and maintenance
- With good understanding of local and federal tax and educational laws
- With excellent interpersonal communication skills to handle school related tasks
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures

LIBRARY ASSISTANT
Qualifications
- Graduate of a Christian Education Course or its equivalent
- At least 2 years experience in record keeping and library operation & documentation
- Willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
- Adhere to all school policies and procedures

Interested applicants must submit resume to:
Marianas Baptist Church and Academy, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950

CENTURY FINANCE COMPANY, LTD.
is inviting qualified applicants to apply for the following positions:

Business Operations Manager
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- Familiarization in hazard Class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard materials/Dangerous Goods)
- Commercial Drivers License certificates is required

1 Accountant/Bookkeeper
Salary: $ 5.05 - $ 5.85 per hour, Full time
- Must have 5 years work related experience
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Rangers earn return trip to World Series

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —After waiting until their 50th season to reach their World Series, the Texas Rangers are going right back.

Nelson Cruz had one more big blast, Michael Young caught the final out long after hitting a pair of doubles in one of the highest-scoring postseason innings ever and the Rangers became the American League's first repeat champion in a decade.

The team that lost Cliff Lee in free agency and held onto Young after his offseason trade request finished off the Detroit Tigers with a 15-5 romp Saturday night to win the AL championship series in six games,

"This a great trophy, we're real proud of it," Young said. "But we're looking forward to the one with all the flags on it. ... Happy, but not satisfied."

Cruz was selected ALCS MVP after his postseason-record sixth home run of the series, and he also had a record 13 RBIs. Young hit a pair of two-run doubles in a nine-run third inning that sent the Rangers on their way to becoming the AL's first consecutive pennant winner since the New York Yankees won four in a row from 1998-01.

"We wanted to get to the World Series. But the bottom line is getting to the World Series and winning it. We feel pretty confident about ourselves," manager Ron Washington said. "More than anything else, the commitment they made in November after San Francisco sent us home, they held true to it."

Texas will open the World Series on Wednesday night at St. Louis or Milwaukee, seeking the first title in the history of a franchise that started play in 1961. The World Series returns deep in the heart of Texas with Game 3 next Saturday night.

Young, who also homered and had five RBIs in the finale, caught Brandon Inge's game-ending popout in short right field and pumped a right hand into the air signaling "No. 1" while fireworks and confetti filled the sky, then ran toward the middle of the field to celebrate with his teammates.

Cruz threw both hands in the air and briefly knelt to a knee in the outfield before running to the infield for the ginger ale-spraying celebration, and a banner was unfurled high over center field declaring the Rangers 2011 AL champions. The postgame celebration included Cruz getting the AL MVP trophy.

"It was fun to watch," last year's AL MVP Josh Hamilton said of Cruz. "It's one thing to be in the stands. But when you're down here on the field with him, you can see the intensity, see the focus. To watch him do that was incredible."

With former President George W. Bush seated in the front row alongside Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan, part of the ownership group that took over the team last year, Washington was at the edge of the dugout wildly waving his arms and shouting encouragement as the big inning unfolded.

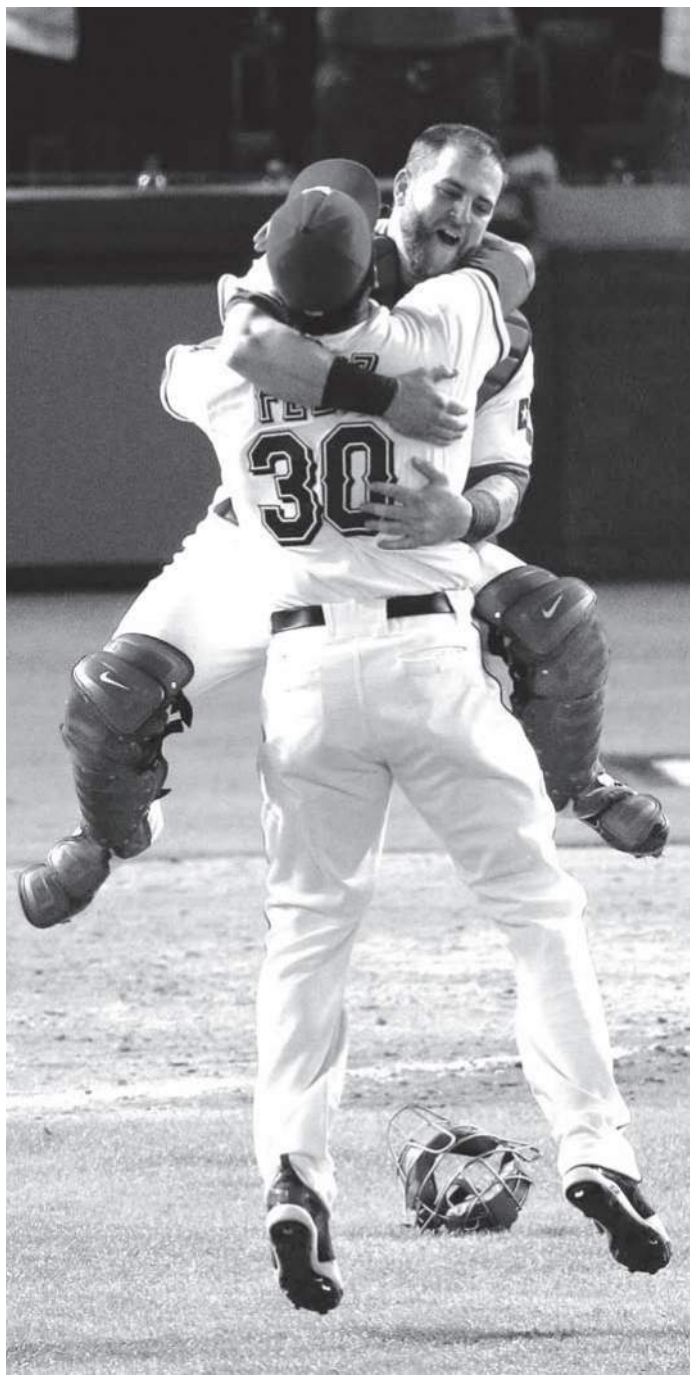
All Tigers manager Jim Leyland could do was take off his cap and scratch his head as the Rangers kept reaching base off starter Max Scherzer and three relievers.

"He was out of whack for the most part all the way. His control was not good from the get go, really. And he had a tough time. And we just couldn't stop the bleeding," Leyland said. "As the game went on, obviously, it really wasn't fair."

A franchise that began as the expansion Washington Senators and moved to Texas in 1972 had failed to reach the World Series before losing to the Giants in five games last year. The Rangers had never even won a postseason series before last season.

"As soon as the season began, we were hungry, we were hungry to get back," Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus said.

Texas overcame a 2-0 deficit by sending 14 batters to the plate against Scherzer (0-1) and three relievers in the highest-scoring postseason inning since 2002.



◄ Texas Rangers Neftali Feliz (30) and Mike Napoli embrace after winning Game 6 of baseball's American League championship series against the Detroit Tigers 15-5, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, in Arlington, Texas. Texas moves on to the world series. AP

Alexi Ogando (2-0) pitched two scoreless innings for his second win in the series.

While Young became only the fourth player in postseason history with two extra-base hits in the same inning—first a tying double into the left-field corner and then one down the right field line for a 9-2 lead—every batter in the Texas lineup reached base at least once in the third. By the time all the fireworks was over, the Rangers scored the most runs ever in a postseason game against the Tigers and the most in any postseason contest since the Yankees routed Boston 19-8 in Game 3 of the 2004 ALCS.

Also among the sellout crowd of 51,508 was Dirk Nowitzki, MVP of the NBA finals won by the Dallas Mavericks in June.

Now the Rangers get another chance to bring another championship to the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

In his 11th season in Texas, Young had played in 1,508 regular-season games before finally getting into the playoffs last year. He added a huge exclamation point to his already big night when he led off the seventh with a 416-foot homer to straightaway center.

His five RBIs matched the Rangers postseason record, set by Cruz in Game 2.

Last winter, Young had requested a trade after the Rangers signed Adrian Beltre and acquired Mike Napoli, moves that led to Young becoming primarily a designated hitter and first baseman, a position he had never played. He had already been a starting second baseman and an All-Star at shortstop and third base.

Young's two doubles came in the highest-scoring inning in a postseason game since the Angels matched a playoff record with 10 runs in the seventh inning of Game 5 during the 2002 ALCS against Minnesota.

Texas' big inning started when Andrus drew a one-out walk, and Josh Hamilton blooped an opposite-field single to left. After Young tied it, Beltre hit a go-ahead single under the leg of Scherzer, who was gone after consecutive walks to Napoli and Cruz.

Cruz fought back from a 0-2 count for his walk. On a checked swing on a 2-2 pitch, Scherzer and Leyland both reacted in disbelief when first base umpire Tim Welke signaled no swing. When the next pitch was ball four, Cruz flipped his bat away and quickly clapped his hands.

David Murphy hit a two-run single off Daniel Schlereth, facing his only batter in his only appearance of the series. Game 4 starter Rick Porcello took over and pinch-hitter Craig Gentry reached on a fielder's choice as Murphy beat the throw to second. Ian Kinsler's two-run single made it 7-2, and Young's second double boosted the margin to 9-2.

When Ryan Perry finally induced Beltre to hit an inning-ending flyout, fans roared in anticipation of a World Series berth that wouldn't be official for five more innings. Most wildly waved white rally towels, and another behind the Rangers dugout swayed a Texas state flag back-and-forth high in the air.

Detroit had already avoided elimination twice this postseason, winning Game 5 of the AL division series at Yankee Stadium and then extending the ALCS with a 7-5 win at home Thursday.

Derek Holland allowed solo homers to Miguel Cabrera in the first and Jhonny Peralta in the second as Detroit, seeking its first Series title since 1984, tried to force a Game 7.

"I don't think I've ever been prouder of a team than I am of this team," Leyland said. "They gave everything they had."

Rangers slugger Nelson Cruz wins ALCS MVP

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Move over, Reggie, Babe and all other October sluggers. Nobody has ever had a postseason power surge like Nelson Cruz just did in the AL championship series.

With a two-run homer Saturday night, Cruz upped his ALCS totals to six homers and 13 RBIs—both major league records for a postseason series. The numbers will hold, too, because his Texas Rangers beat the Detroit Tigers 15-5 in Game 6 to advance to the World Series for the second straight year.

"When the team needed me, I delivered," Cruz said. "It was amazing."

It also made him an easy choice for series MVP.

Cruz went 8 for 22 (.364), with every hit going for extra bases; his two non-homers were doubles. Only once has anyone had more extra-base hits in a postseason series; Hideki Matsui had nine for the Yankees when they lost the 2004 ALCS to Boston.

Consider his other Cruz-ian feats this round:

■ He hit the first game-ending grand slam in postseason history.

■ He became the first player with extra-inning homers in two games of one series.

■ He became the first player to hit six homers in two postseasons, and he's done it in back-to-back years.

■ He became the franchise's career postseason home run king.

And, get this—he did it all while batting seventh in the lineup.

"It was fun to watch," said teammate Josh Hamilton, last year's ALCS MVP. "It's one thing to be in the stands. But when you're down here on the field with him, you can see the intensity, see the focus. To watch him do that was incredible. ... When Nellie gets in those streaks, they can come at any time. That's what the funnest part is. Every at-bat when he's up there, it could be the at-bat where he hits another one."

On Saturday night, the Rangers already were well on their way to victory when Cruz sent another high-arching shot over the left-field wall in the seventh inning. A stadium filled with fans eager to celebrate the pennant chanted "Cruuuuuuz" long and loud, and he stepped out of the dugout for a quick salute.

When Michael Young caught the final out at first base, Cruz was running toward the play and began smiling. He then dropped to a knee and said a quick prayer, slapped the ground and charged into the pileup near the mound.

During the ceremony, there were more roars of "Cruuuuuuz" whenever his name was mentioned and of course when he received the MVP hardware.

"Nellie worked hard all year," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "Coming down the stretch, he didn't really have a whole lot of at-bats. He kept battling, his teammates supported him and in the end it all came together."

Cruz homered in every game the Rangers won—and in every game, period, except the third. He also helped Texas win Game 4 by throwing out a runner at the plate in the eighth inning of a tie game.

Coming into this series, Cruz may have been the least likely player to have a historic performance.

He had one measly single in 15 at-bats in a first-round series against Tampa Bay.

"It was only a matter of time," said Mike Napoli, who bats ahead of Cruz. "We were like, 'What's wrong with Nellie, he hasn't hit a home run yet?' But he did it (in Game 1) and there he went."

Once he found his power stroke in the opener, Cruz stuck with it. Nearly every long drive came at a great time, too.

His solo shot in Game 1 put Texas up 3-0 on the way to a 3-2 victory. He tied Game 2 with a solo homer in the seventh inning, got hit in the wrist by a pitch in the ninth, then hit the grand slam in the 11th. He hit a three-run homer in the 11th inning of Game 4 and ripped another on a 100 mph heater from Justin Verlander in Game 5, turning what seemed like a lost cause into a 7-5 game that ended with the potential go-ahead run at the plate.

"When Nellie gets going, he's good as any power hitter in the game," Young said. "He's going right now, and it's a lot of fun to watch."

Cruz showed he could throw with power, too, in Game 4.

Detroit had a runner at third with one out when Cruz caught a fly ball and threw a strike to catcher Mike Napoli. The ball arrived in plenty of time for Napoli to brace himself for a collision with Miguel Cabrera for the inning-ending out. Cruz showed great fundamentals with the way he approached the ball, ready to step into his rifle throw.

Rose, Durant blame owners for NBA lockout

CHICAGO (AP)—Derrick Rose says blame for the NBA's current labor impasse rests squarely with team owners, not players.

"It's very sad, but everybody knows it's not our fault," the Chicago Bulls point guard and reigning NBA most valuable player said Saturday. "If it was up to us we'd be out there playing. I think that is wrong and I know they could easily take care of it."

The 23-year-old Bulls star talked about the lockout and his training regimen during downtown appearances introducing a new adidas shoe line.

Rose said the NBA lockout, which has wiped out training camp, exhibition games and the early port of the regular 2011-12 season, has been frustrating.

"They (the owners) aren't thinking about anything that we're saying," he said. "They're not taking into consideration (anything) that we're trying to give them. We're just going to have to see how it goes."

Rose said a partial regular season seemed a likely scenario.

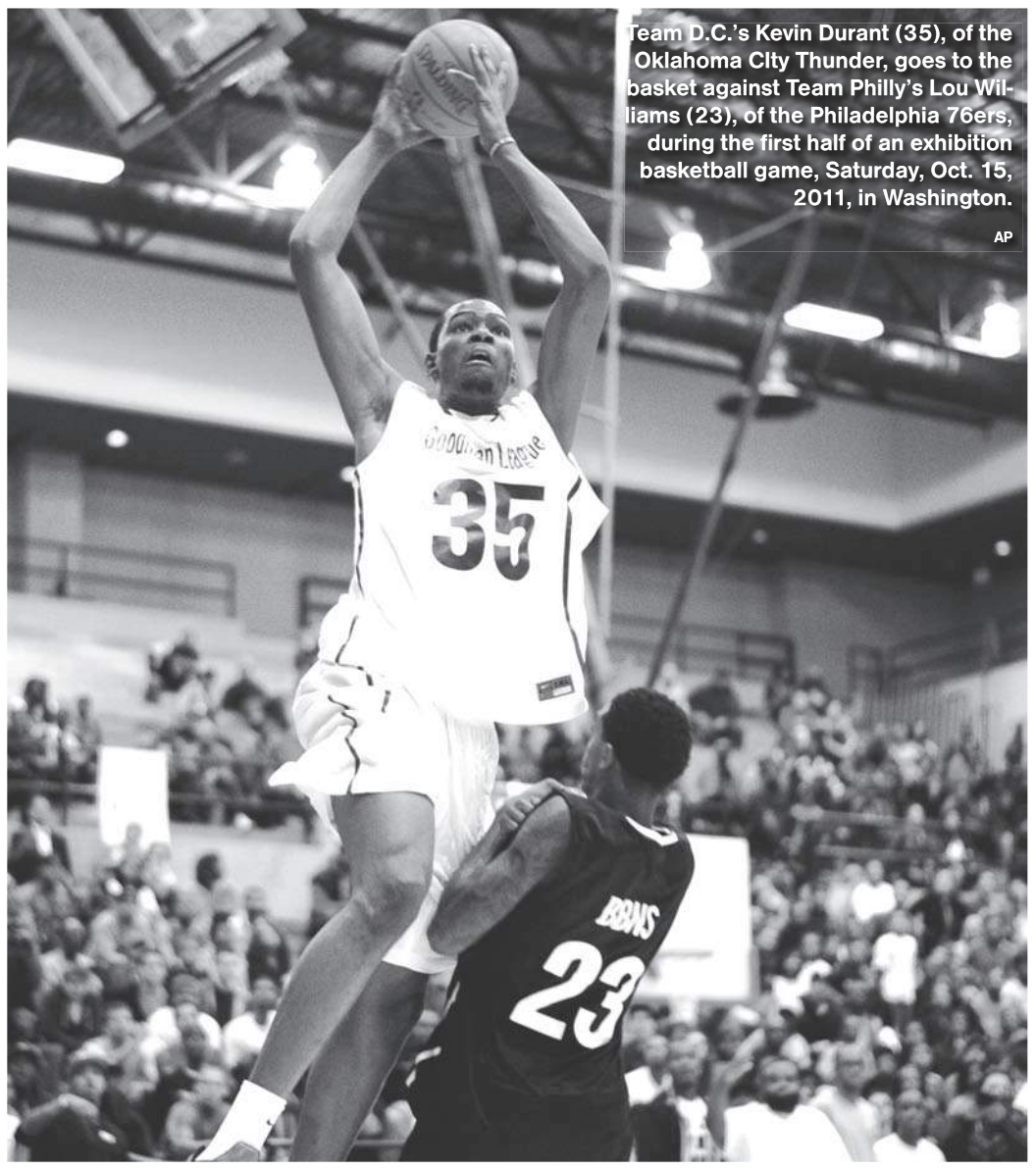
"It is," he said. "(But) I can't say nothing about it."

NBA commissioner David Stern wiped out the season's first two weeks and has threatened to also cancel the league's showcase Christmas Day games.

Rose said he continues to work out despite the lack of organized practices that training camp would provide.

"I'm working on my post game, sharpening my shooting, dribbling and all that stuff," he said. "I'm just trying to get better as a player, get smarter. I definitely want my basketball IQ to get better."

Rose led Chicago to an NBA best 62 regular season victories last season. The Bulls were eliminated by Miami in five games in the Eastern Conference finals. He averaged 25 points per game on the way to league MVP honors.



Team D.C.'s Kevin Durant (35), of the Oklahoma CIty Thunder, goes to the basket against Team Philly's Lou Williams (23), of the Philadelphia 76ers, during the first half of an exhibition basketball game, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, in Washington.

AP

"We had a great year last year and for us not to have a season this year or taking so long to come up with a deal I think that is wrong," he said.

Rose is not only endorsing, the new adidas adiZero Rose2 line, he's using the footwear.

"I work out in these every day," he said. "I will be playing him them."

He made Saturday appearances at a Michigan Ave. shoe store, then greeted several hundred fans at a State St. Footlocker outlet where some fans reportedly camped out overnight to meet the Chicago native.

Rose was later scheduled to play some basketball with selected youths at the James Jordan Boys and Girls Club on the city's West Side.

In Washington, Oklahoma City star Kevin Durant is looking for some concessions from NBA owners to help end the lockout.

"They got to meet us at some point," Durant said after playing in an exhibition game at a DC-area high school on Saturday. "I feel like (the owners) aren't helping us out - they're not trying meet us halfway with it."

Durant said the players had "sacrificed a lot" in an effort to reach a labor agreement.

The owners and players are scheduled to meet with a federal mediator on Tuesday and Commissioner David Stern has said the league's popular Christmas Day games could be canceled if that session does not go well.

The lockout, which began in July, already has wiped out the first two weeks of the regular season.

"The way the meetings (have) been going, it's just so slow," Durant said. "Us as players, we bring in a lot of the money. Hopefully we come to an agreement, but we got to stand firm."

Though there has been speculation over whether there will be a season, Durant is optimistic the sides will resolve their differences in time to play.

"I'm not concerned about that," he said. "I think we'll get something done - I hope so. I don't want to think about that."

For as long as the lockout progresses, Durant said he'll continue to participate in exhibitions to keep in shape and maintain a positive relationship with fans.

Durant was in Washington with Wizards guard John Wall, Kings forward DeMarcus Cousins and other NBA stars to renew the Philadelphia-Washington DC rivalry in front of crowd of several hundred fans.

Lou Williams and Hakim Warrick led the way in Philadelphia's 172-169 win. Durant scored 56 points for the DC team.

"They've been talking trash to me for two weeks now," Durant said of the Philadelphia team. "I wanted to put on a show."

Dawson stops Hopkins in bizarre 2nd-round finish

BOXING

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chad Dawson spent most of the past half-decade angling for a fight with Bernard Hopkins, believing he could define his boxing career by knocking out an ageless champion who had never been stopped.

Dawson got his TKO on Saturday night.

But his dream looked nothing like this debacle.

Hopkins was stopped for the first time in his career in bizarre fashion when Dawson lifted him and tossed him to the canvas late in the second round, leaving the 46-year-old champion unable to continue.

Dawson (31-1, 18 KOs) claimed the WBC light heavyweight title from Hopkins (52-6-2), but both fighters were left furious and screaming when referee Pat Russell ruled Dawson hadn't fouled Hopkins, whose promoter immediately said he'll protest the result.

"They want me out of boxing, and this is one way to do it," Hopkins said. "Chad Dawson came in the ring tonight, and he just wanted to rough me up with dirty tactics. He wanted to get me out of there, and that was the only way he could."

After five unmemorable minutes, everything happened in an instant: Hopkins leaned over the crouching Dawson after throwing an overhand right, and Dawson lifted Hopkins off his feet by standing up before shrugging him onto the canvas.

Hopkins landed roughly on his left shoulder, his head poking underneath the bottom rope, and might have glanced off the ringside table. Hopkins immediately clutched his shoulder and grimaced in pain, apparently unable to continue.

"He jumped on me and was pulling me down, so I pushed him off with the shoulder," Dawson said. "B-Hop disappointed a lot of fans. I was looking forward to a good fight. I trained eight weeks for this. ... Yes, he was faking. This is a fight I wanted for three years, and Bernard obviously didn't want the fight."

Hopkins said he told Russell he would continue fighting "with one arm," but Russell waved off the fight and declared a TKO. Just like that, a long-awaited showdown between the ageless light heavyweight champion and his top young rival was over, enraging the lively Staples Center crowd.

"It was not a foul," Russell said. "It's a TKO. He could not continue because of an injury. No foul."

After waiting several years and training relentlessly for the fight, Dawson was apoplectic when Hopkins stayed down on the ground, taunting him and climbing on the ropes. When Russell waved off the fight, Dawson went over to Hopkins and motioned at him to get off his stool, repeatedly cursing at him.

"I knew he didn't want the fight," Dawson said. "He keeps talking about Philly and being a gangster. He's no gangster. Gangsters don't quit. He's weak. He's a weak physically- and mentally-minded person. He has no power."

Golden Boy President Richard Schaefer, Hopkins' promoter, said he'll protest to the California State Athletic Commission.

"That was not a boxing-like move," Schaefer said. "If you're allowed to lift somebody up and slam them to the floor, you can't win your belts like that."

Even California officials acknowledged the first TKO on Hopkins' record could soon be up for debate in a boardroom.

"He couldn't continue, so it's a TKO for now," said George Dodd, commission's executive officer. "At this time, that's the call."

The brief fight will be an absurd chapter in the remarkable mid-life renaissance of Hopkins, who became the oldest man to win a significant world title last May with a victory over Jean Pascal, the only man who has beaten Dawson.

"He knew he wasn't in there with a 46-year-old, because I was quicker and faster than him," Hopkins said. "That was a blatant foul, and it should be a no-contest, not a disqualification."

Hopkins has defied all conventional wisdom about athletes and aging ever since his career appeared finished after two decision losses to Jermain Taylor in 2005, when Hopkins was just 40.

Simpson in contention at Sea Island

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. (AP)—Webb Simpson shot a 1-under 69 on Saturday and is tied for third heading into the final round of the McGladrey Classic.

Simpson and world No. 1 Luke Donald are vying for the PGA Tour money title and both have said they will play next week at Disney. Simpson trails Donald by $68,971, but could move into the top spot with a strong round Sunday.

Simpson also is looking for a tour-leading third win this year, which could make him the favorite for PGA Tour player of the year.

Michael Thompson had three early birdies and finished with a 67 to move into the lead at Sea Island, one shot better than second-round leader Billy Horschel. Thompson had one of three bogey-free rounds on the day and is 13-under 197.

Trevor Immelman, who has only two top-10 finishes on Tour since winning the 2008 Masters, matched the Seaside Course record with a 62 and is tied with Simpson at 11 under. Louis Oosthuizen (69), the 2010 British Open champion, Jeff Overton (66), Kris Blanks (66) and Nick O'Hern (69) are tied at 9 under.

Horschel (70) led by as many as three shots and had a one-shot margin when he hit his tee shot at the par-4 16th hole into a lateral hazard. He eventually posted a double-bogey.

Thompson made all three of his birdies on the front nine and parred every hole on the back. He had an 8-foot putt for birdie on the closing hole, but the ball caught a piece of the cup and trickled out.

"I thought it was the best putt I hit all day," Thompson said. "Something yanked it left. But I'm very happy. I played bogey-free on Saturday, which is always a good thing no matter where I stand."

Horschel, a second-year pro, has competed against Thompson before. Horschel was a three-time All-American at the University of Florida, and Thompson went to Alabama.

Horschel was 14 under through 15 holes on the sunny, windless day. But he got "too quick" on his tee shot at No. 16, and watched in dismay as the ball started left and stayed left, dropping into the hazard. He had an 11-foot putt for bogey, and missed it after playing his previous 20 holes at 7-under par, with no bogeys.

"I guess the ball wanted to go in there," Horschel said of his shot at No. 16. "It was a quick swing ... I get a little quick at the top. I'm fortunate to be as close to Michael as I am. I could be two or three shots behind."

Horschel got up and down for par at No. 18 after his second shot went into a sandy area right of the green. He splashed the ball out and made a 10-foot putt.

"I was rooting for him," Thompson said. "I never root for someone to hit a bad shot."

Thompson and Horschel continue to thrive on familiar ground. Thompson won the 2008 Southeastern Conference individual championship at nearby Frederica Golf Club, and Horschel won the 2009 SEC title at Sea Island.

"You can't win the tournament on Saturday," Horschel said. "I'm one back and in the final twosome. It would be nice to be one ahead but I'll take it."

MBI Rollers rally over Kunoichi

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Micronesian Brokers Inc., Rollers Basketball Club. mounted a 47-37 come-from-behind win over Kunoichi during their U15 game in the 2001 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

Kunoichi sank a couple of three-pointers in the first quarter for a 14-11 lead. Jaime Mendoza paced the squad with seven points in the period.

Kunoichi stretched the lead to eight at halftime, 23-15, as its defense contained MBI to four points in the second quarter.

An MBI Rollers player looks for a teammate to pass the ball to as he is trapped by a Kunoichi defender during their game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

After struggling in the first half, MBI regrouped in the third and moved within one possession, 26-29, heading into the final stanza.

MBI Rollers carried their momentum in crunch time and limited Kunoichi to just eight points in the final period to walk away with a double-digit victory.

Darag delivered nine points in the clutch and finished with a game-high 17 points. Mendoza and Lily Williams managed 11 points apiece in the loss.

In other results, the RBC Angels outlasted sister team Ol'Aces in the second pairing, while the Party Rockers win via forfeit against NMC Proa.

In the second match, the Angles took control early and jumped in front after the first eight minutes of play, 11-4. The Ol'Aces tried to claw back in the second period, but still fell behind at halftime, 14-20. Warren Ellama mustered six points in the second canto, but the Angles stayed on top behind their pair of treys.

In the third period, Angels only allowed a couple baskets to the Ol'Aces to pull ahead, 26-18, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

The Ol'Aces again tried to recover, but came up a handful short of forcing an overtime.

Angelo Factor and Dicky Feria led the Angels with six points apiece, while Ellama paced the Aces with eight on the short end.

First Game

MBI 47 – Darag 17, Cano 9, Acopiado 6, Rios 5, Cenir 4, DeLuna 4, Fidelino 2, Cadua 2.

Kunoichi 37 – Mendoza 11, Williams 11, Pagarao 5, Mettao 2, Iriarte 2, Alegre 2, Abondis 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-14, 15-23, 26-29, 47-37.

Second Game

Angels 38 – Factor 6, Feria 6, Morales 5, Cruz 5, Kwon 4, Abobo 4, Itaas 2, K. Rios 2, Francisco 2.

Ol'Aces 33 – Ellama 8, Metran 6, Alfred 4, Tadeo 4, Sabino 4, Ocaya 2, Dela Cruz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-4, 20-14, 26-18, 38-33.

D'Pirates teams lead in SEDA league

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

D'Pirates' Bar's three teams in the Saipan Electronic Dart Association League are the current division leaders after conclusion of last week's games.

Mixed Blood Shooters-1 (95-58) leads in the A-division, Try Luck continues to dominate the Ladies League, and the Sabalu Boys are pulling away from the pack in the Tuesday B-League.

Mixed Blood-1 pounced Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's Primos (58-95), 12-3, in a road match last week to improve its card to 95-58. It hold a five-game lead over sister team Bud Brothers, who eked out a 9-8 win at home over Oleai's Proofers (79-74) and Oleai's Celebrity, who suffered an 8-9 upset to Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Ali'I Kamote's (78-75) at home.

In other results, Naked Fish's Naked Fish Boyz (80-73) routed Wild Bill's Troubleshooters (62-91), 13-4, at home and D'Pirates Predators (79-74) defeated Bar Gaia's Gaiana-A (54-99), 10-7, in a road match.

Also last week, Try Luck brushed off Oleai's Man-Amigas, 11-4, at home to improve its overall card to 108-27 and retain the Ladies League lead. Man-Amigas fell to an 87-48 slate for second place.

Jonny's Island Girls (58-77) also soundly defeated Joe's Bar & Grill's Daffodils (40-95), 12-3, at home, while results of the third pairing between Joe's Just Like That (59-61) and D'Pirates' Star Magic (38-82) were not released.

In the Tuesday B division, the Sabalu Boys bested Oleai's GCC Carpeters (70-65), 11-4, at home to improve to a 109-26 card.

Delubyo (85-50) grasped a firmer grip on the second spot after a 13-2 thrashing of Oleai's Ombre Za (56-79). Third ranked Mixed Blood Shooters-2 (81-54), also of D'Pirates, ousted fourth place Shawarma Boys (77-58), 11-4, on the road at Es'y Kitchen; Jonny's Dosukebe Boys (67-68) romped Oleai's K-1 Snickers (30-105), 13-2 at home; and Oleai's Strike Force (63-72) defeated VFW Post 3457's Assashunz (37-98), 11-4, in a home match.

Meanwhile, Jonny's Bar & Grill's Team CUC still tops the Inter-Goverment field after conclusion of the most recent matchups.

Team CUC downed third-ranked Oleai's DYS Atdit (69-51), 9-6, at home to improve its record to 86-34.

AG's Sakude! (77-43) edged Jonny's DPS Enforcers (49-71), 8-7, at home in Oleai and remains comfortably in second place, while Wild Bill's Troubleshooters (48-72) defeated Jonny's NMC Proa (31-89), 9-6, at home.

WEEKEND SPORTS

Champions crowned

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup and U19 division of the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League concluded last week with MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt and the Sonics winning the championships.

Ali'i Konflikt stunned regular season champion Namfrel Proa in the Bud Cup finals, 94-80, while the Sonics triumphed over Rollers Basketball Club's Fast 12 in the Rotary U19 title match, 72-65, at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

The Sonics and Ali'i Konflikt were awarded with championship trophies also last week, while the top individual performers in the leagues were recognized too.

NMASA and the TSL Foundation also held a recognition ceremony, handing awards to student-athletes who had impressive showings the past months. Tennis' Christian Miller, Tammy Ackerman, Rafael Jones, and Mikayla Lopez received medals for ruling on and off-island tournaments, while baseball's Ian Rogolifoi, Joshua Jones, and Vince Cepeda got the same hardware for helping the CNMI win the gold medal in last month's 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia. Jehn Joyner of football and spearfishing's David Lizama were also cited for their outstanding performance, but failed to attend the ceremony.

Meanwhile, other notable events last week were the selection of the Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. board of directors, opening of the MDX caging, RBC Family Fun Tournament and the ongoing NMIFA and SML youth league.

The SLLBI board of directors for the 2012 season is composed of Roman Reyes, Robert Magofna, Yvonne Tarope Camacho, James Mawata, Remedio Celis, Juan I. Tenorio, Rep. Ray Yumul, Peding Tenorio, and Annie Flores.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of MAFEA/Ali' I Konflikt pose with their trophies during the awards ceremony for the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup last Saturday at the FilCom Pavilion in Susupe.

MDX caging had 15 teams during the opening ceremony with JHEM's Garapan winning the first match against G.E.C. Koblerville.

The RBC Family Fun Tournament drew 80 participants, including the parents of RBC players and proceeds of the event will be used for the club's participation to a Thanksgiving competition in Guam.

In the NMIFA youth league, Matansa and MP United 1 kept their undefeated records in the girls and boys U15 divisions, while in the SML youth summer/fall league, Fielders 1 and Titanum posted contrasting wins.

SONICS

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Peterka, watched and finale and later assisted organizers in the awards ceremony

The Sonics got their collective offensive game to work for a slight edge, 13-11, in the opening eight minutes. Six different players scored for the Sonics in the first quarter.

After falling behind in the opening canto, Fast 12 managed a late surge in the second period to stay in contention. However, Cadiang drained a couple of three-pointers for the Sonics to keep his team ahead at halftime, 31-26.

Fast 12's Rodney Sacramento struggled early in the match, but found his way to the basket in the second canto and led his team with seven markers in the first half.

Sacramento's teammates took his back in the third quarter, as Jomar Duenas and Rainier Deleon Guerrero ignited a rally and scored five points apiece to put the speedy dozen ahead, 50-48, heading into the final period.

Fast 12 was a bit jaded after mounting the comeback and the Sonics capitalized on it with Cadiang returning to the floor and leading his team in the fourth quarter and Ecalnea stepping up after a dismal showing in the first three periods.

Cadiang added six points in the final frame, while Ecalnea, who was held to two free throws in the first three quarters, chipped in six, too.

The Sonics' defense held strong in all 32 minutes and shut down Fast 12 ball carriers. Fast 12 struggled working the ball inside, while the Sonics shooters hit their mark for the majority of the game. The Sonics sealed the match from the foul line with Cadiang making two free throws and Ecalnea, who scored the team's first five points in the fourth period, splitting his charities in the homestretch.

Sonics' Cadiang and James Tudela outscored Fast 12 top duo Sacramento and Jomar Duenas, 34-27. Cadiang led the field with 21 points and received the Finals MVP honors. Caro was selected as the regular season MVP.

Patrick Torres of third placer Chalan Kanoa Blazers was also recognized during the awards ceremony, as he was named scoring champion after averaging 20 points a game during the regular season.

Finals

Sonics 72 – Cadiang 21, Tudela 13, Ecalnea 8, Caro 8, Alegre 7, De Guzman 7, Villanueva 6, Aranda 4.

RBC Fast 12 65 – Sacramento 14, Danas 13, DL Guerrero 11, Iglesias 9, Metran 6, Ano 4, Rabauliman 2, Maranan 2, Vertudez 2, Orejola 1.

Scoring by quarters: 13-11, 31-26, 48-50, 72-65.

DEVERO

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flikt player also made it to the Mythical Five, joining teammates Elmer Esdrelon and Jawn Joyner and Proa's Dan Barcinas and Jack Lizama. Surprisingly, Proa's Pete Iguel, who tallied more than 30 points in several games in the regular season before being held to 16 markers in the finals, missed the Mythical Five selection. Jun Estolas of Bayani/Mobil was also not on the list after making it to the elite group in the past years. Also not included on the list was last season MVP Kae Bernardo of Cabalen/Noni, which walked out of its quarterfinals match against Bayani.

In the masters division, three players of champion MDX/Armatech were selected to the Mythical Five Team, including eventual MVP James Abuy, Bernard Montano, and Bruce Berline. Completing the selection were Edsel Mendoza and Tony Diaz of runner-up Cabalen Wings Travel.

The youth division had a surprised MVP winner in Caro, who beat teammates Sahj Hossain and Eugene Manglona for the prestigious award. The Jets trio made it to the Mythical Five, joining Filcag Rollers' Travis Eubanks and Brandon Aulerio. MDX/Armatech top scorer Matthew Duenas missed the selection, but was present to receive the fourth place trophy.

The AFP/Jets of coach Leo Canedo took home the championship trophy, while Filcag Rollers and Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense were awarded the runner-up and third place trophies.

Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson, Budweiser/MARPAC's Melvin Tenorio, Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig, and UFO officials teamed up in presenting the awards to winners last Saturday night at the FilCom Pavilion in Susupe.

WHISPERING

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yet to be released, but SSC was scheduled to select the Top 3 schools in the elementary, high school, and junior high school divisions. The Top 3 schools in each category will be determined via point systems. Participating schools received points based on how their swimmers finished in the race. SSC was also set to honor the Top 3 finishers in each race.

Besides Whispering Palms, other schools that joined the weekend event were 2010 junior high champion Saipan Community School, 2010 high school winner Saipan Southern High School, Saipan International School, Grace Christian Academy, Mt Carmel School, Hopwood Junior High, Chacha Junior High, Garapan Elementary School, San Vicente, Dandan, Kagman, and Gregorio T. Camacho.

More than 100 swimmers joined this year's All Schools competition, which featured over 30 events.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Sonics notch Rotary U19 championship

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

No more bridesmaid finish for the Sonics.

After losing last season to the Ol'Aces, the Sonics this time were hailed champions in the U19 division of the 2011 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League, following a 72-65 victory over Rollers Basketball Club's Fast 12 in Friday's finale at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

The championship was a perfect gift for coach Omar Ajoste, who got married a few days before their title duel against Fast 12.

"On behalf of the team, we'd like to thank our manager Jesse Tudela, Ed Salas, Island Apparel, and its operations manager Mr. Yasu Irinaka, all the Rotary league participants and organizers, plus all of the fans that showed up to cheer for us in the finals. All of our hard work paid off and it feels great. I think we played strong defense tonight as we have been doing all year and we hit our shots on the day it counted the most. I told my guys not to get caught up thinking about the championship and to just focus on their games," Ajoste said.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Members of the Sonics pose with their championship trophy and the league officials and guests during the awards ceremony for the 2011 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex. The Sonics beat Rollers Basketball Club's Fast 12 in the finals, 72-65.

The Sonics are made up of Bryl Alegre, Jack Aranda, Melvin Cadiang, Ezra Caro, Jaymark De Guzman, Herman Del Rosario, Tristan Ecalnea, Adrian Palacios, Angelo Salas, Nevin Salem, Jimmy Tudela, and John Paul Villanueva.

A big crowd, which included NMASA president and BANMI secretary general Michael White, FIBA International referee Gabriel Wite, DPW community services director Dick Cody, Rep. Ray Basa, and Rotarian Laurie

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Devero takes MVP in UFO Bud Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Wingman Ivan Devero of back-to-back champion MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt claimed the coveted MVP trophy in the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup, while MDX/Armatech's James Abuy and the Jets' Ezra Caro notched the same award in the masters and youth divisions of the Docomo Pacific Cup.

Devero stepped up big time in the playoff round, averaging 24.3 points in the three matches in the playoffs. He also averaged in double figures in the regular season, but posted only close to 12 points per match. The Ali'i Konflikt gunner fired 26 markers in their 79-77 win over VisMinda, 27 in their 108-88 semis victory against Cavite, and 20 in their 94-80 triumph versus the favored Proa in the finals.

The high-flying Ali'i Kon-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt's Ivan Devero, second right, shows his MVP trophy during the awards ceremony for the UFO Bud Cup last Saturday at the FilCom Pavilion in Susupe. Also in the photo are from left, UFO officials Boy Ching, Melvin Malvar, and Bong Malasarte and MARPAC's Melvin Tenorio.

Whispering Palms keeps tradition in All Schools

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

As expected, Whispering Palms had the most entries in the 18th SSC All Schools Swimming Championship held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi last Saturday.

"We have 32 swimmers and have lots of new ones this year," coach Jeff Race said in a brief interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Whispering Palms is the six-time defending champion in the elementary division of the Saipan Swim Club-sanctioned event and in the past Race has emphasized that the secret behind the school's success is the students' active participation every season and the support of their parents.

"Every year, we encourage our students to represent the school well in this tournament," Race said.

The strong Whispering Palms swim team is composed of Maria Gregoire, Kaden Church, You Sun Lee, Sam Ryu, Negahr Rastguiy, Gabrielle Race, Miale Aldrich, Jesse Leon Guerrero, Steven and Mylan Goodwin, Naoki Kasai, Cole Chambers, Ellie Epley, Sun Bin Cho, Bella Loan, Shea Hartig, Dominic Zedde, Jon and Gillian Villagomez, Hannah Lyn Nelson, Melanie Choe, Arman Khorram, Eugene Park, Justin and Chloe Kosack, Amon McGuire, Blake and Logan Mister, Zion Okano, Rachel Kwon, Amber Montegengro, Sally Lai, and Jin Ju Thompson.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Whispering Palms student does the butterfly stroke during the 200m medley relay race in the 2011 SSC All Schools Swimming Championships last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

The Whispering Palms swimmers competed in the mixed U12 and U10 200m freestyle, U12 50m butterfly, U9 50m freestyle, 10 to 12 50m freestyle, U19 50m breaststroke, 10 to 12 50m breaststroke, U12 100m freestyle, and the U12 medley relay.

Final results of the races have

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